



KING OF BANDITS

王様の賊 KING

YU-GI-OH! KU-MA-KI-RA

This image is hosted at mangafox.com, we take no credit for the creation or editing of this image.  
All credit goes to the appropriate parties involved in the creation or editing of this image.

The color of happiness  
Has always been rose...  
But the colors of unhappiness  
Are infinite...

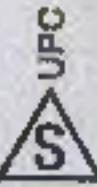
(A Pompier proverb)



ISBN: 1591824680



R2468



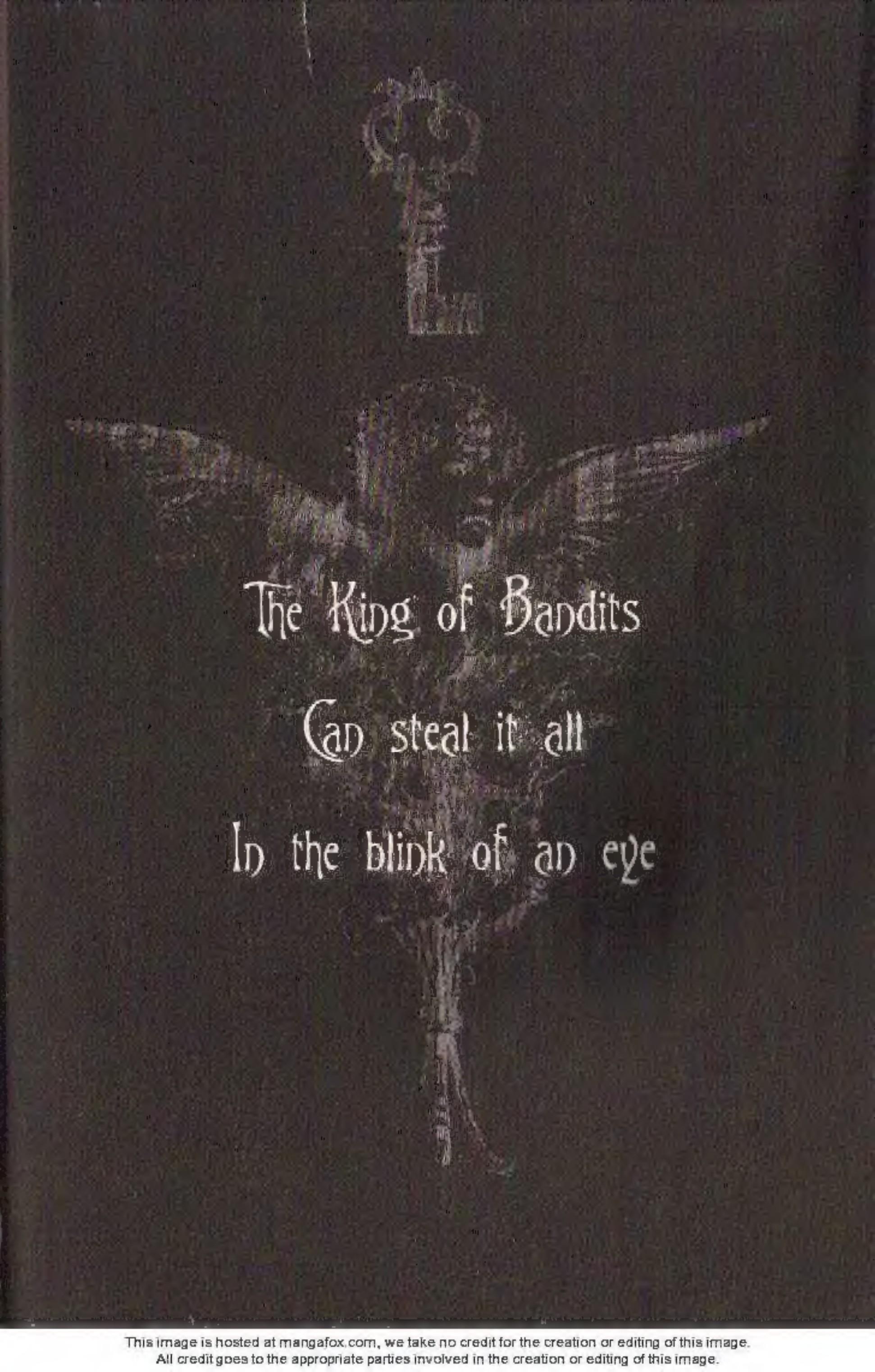
[www.TOKYOPOP.com](http://www.TOKYOPOP.com)

All that glitters...

Even the stars

All things precious...

Even your life



The King of Bandits  
Can steal it all  
In the blink of an eye

*a girl with a tattooed heart  
in  
pompier*

EEGEND  
LINGERIE  
新裝販  
SEVEN

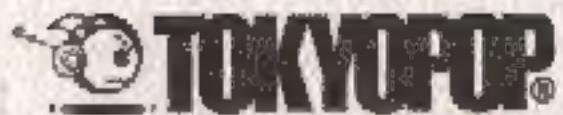
**王道樂園**

ROUND OF RAINBOWS

VOLUME 7 OF 7

**WORLD** **WING**

STORY AND ART BY  
YUICHI KUMAKURA



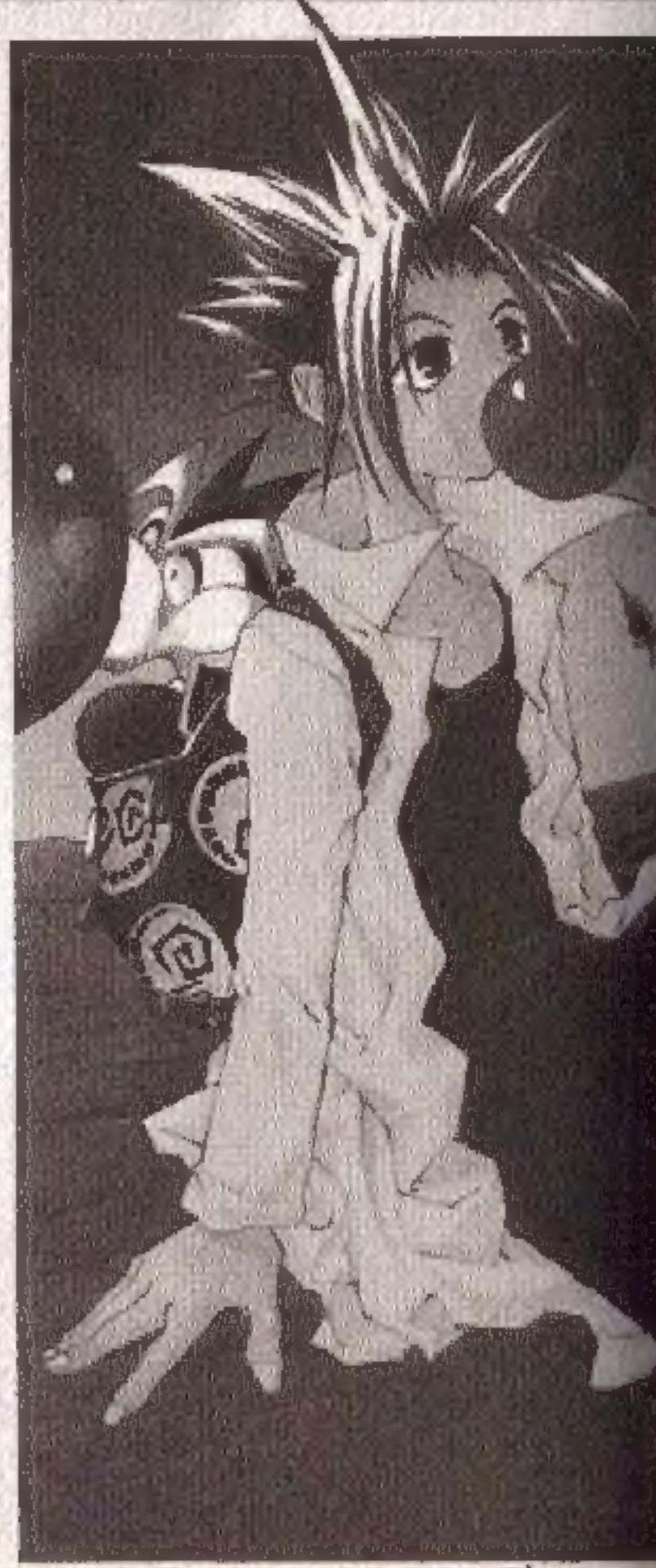
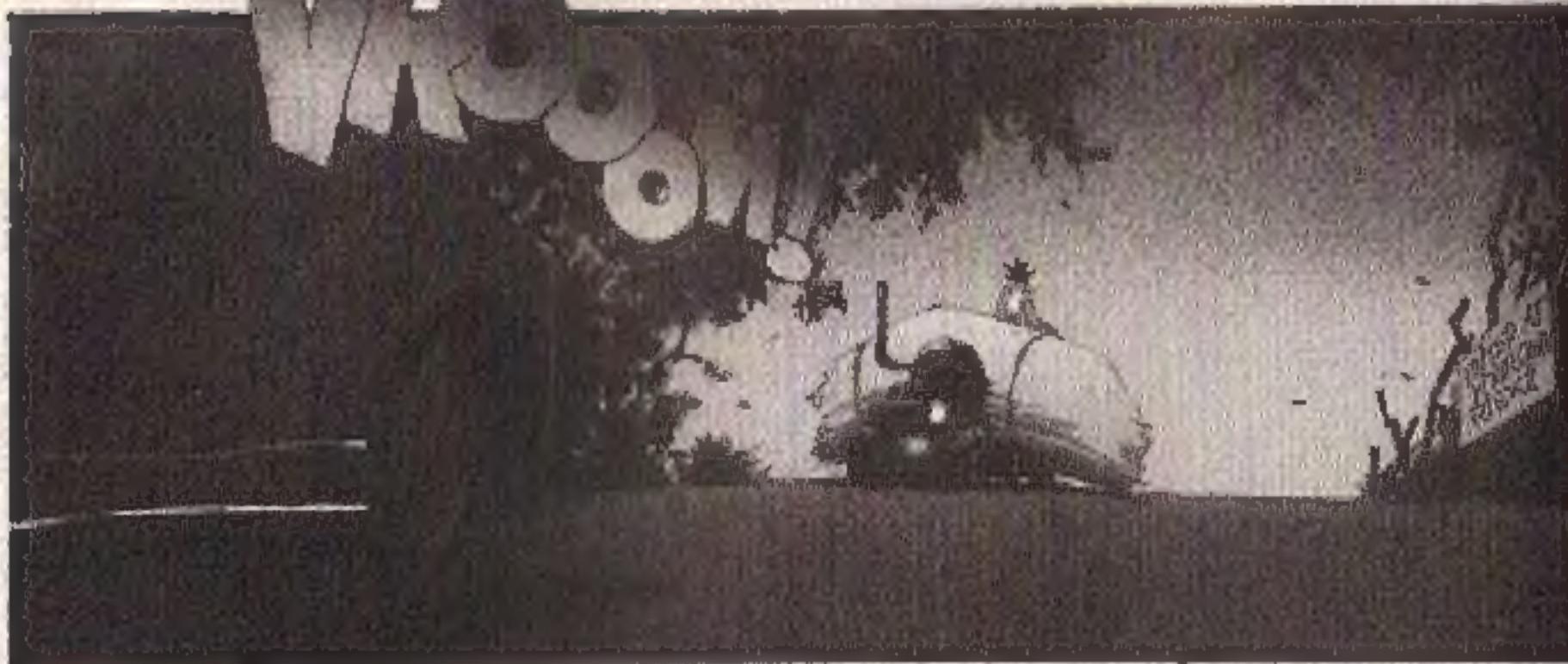
Los Angeles • Tokyo • London • Hamburg

Once upon a midnight dreary, a thief named Jing was weak and weary.  
Many strange and forgotten lands he did traverse and explore.  
His companion was a bird named Kir, his black wings a-flapping.  
While Jing dozed, nearly napping, Kir saw booty galore.  
"Wake up, Jing," Kir muttered, "all around us is loot galore."  
Treasure from ceiling to floor!

Thus, this ebony bird's wing, sent Jing's sad face into smiling,  
For Jing could steal the stars from the sky, thievery he truly did adore.  
The albatross sat proudly on Jing's placid bust, his beady eyes did implore,  
One more thing Kir did offer; his feathers all a greedy flutter, his voice a roar:  
Quoth the albatross, "Let's steal some more!"



TATTOOED GIRL

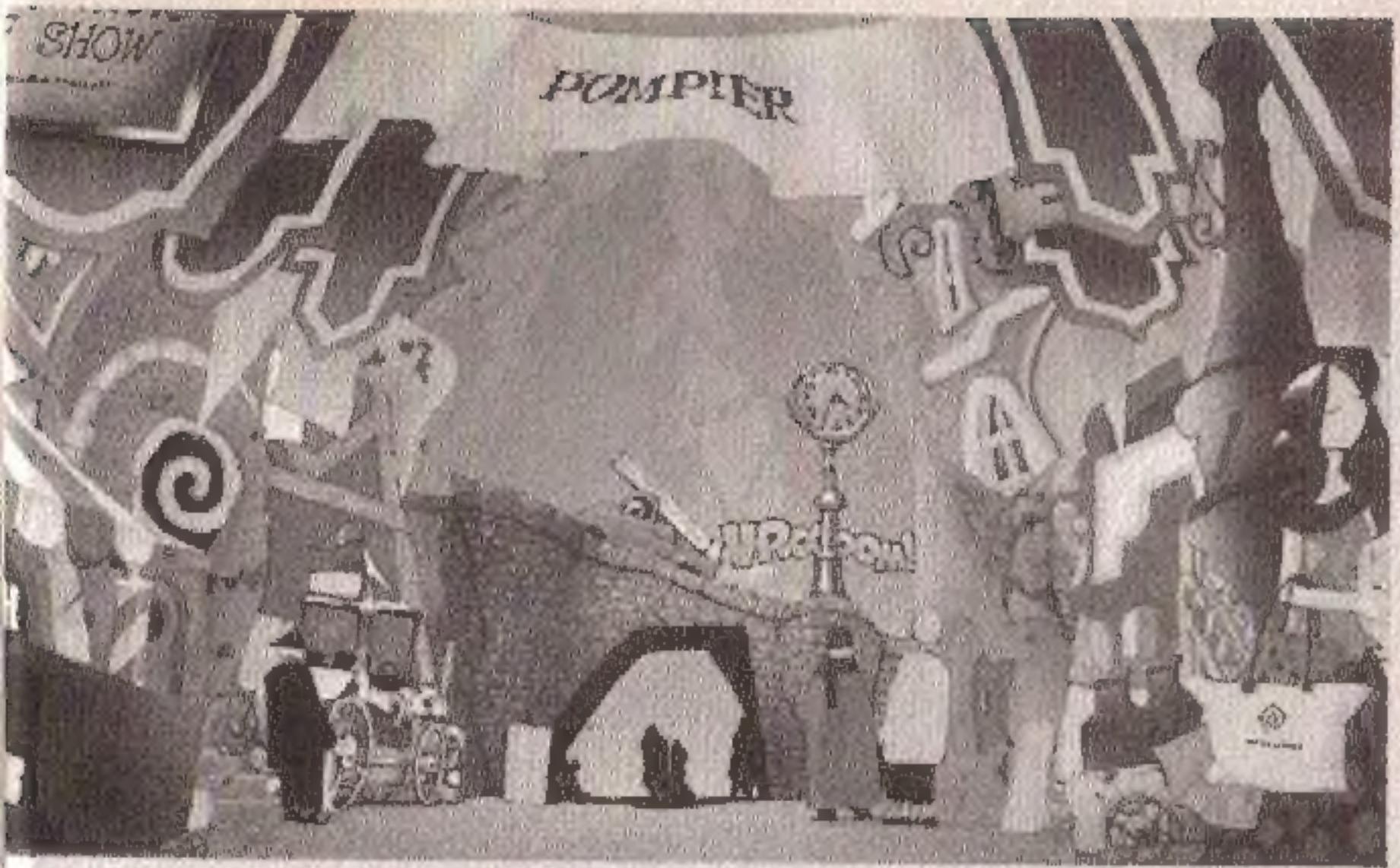


色彩都市の少女

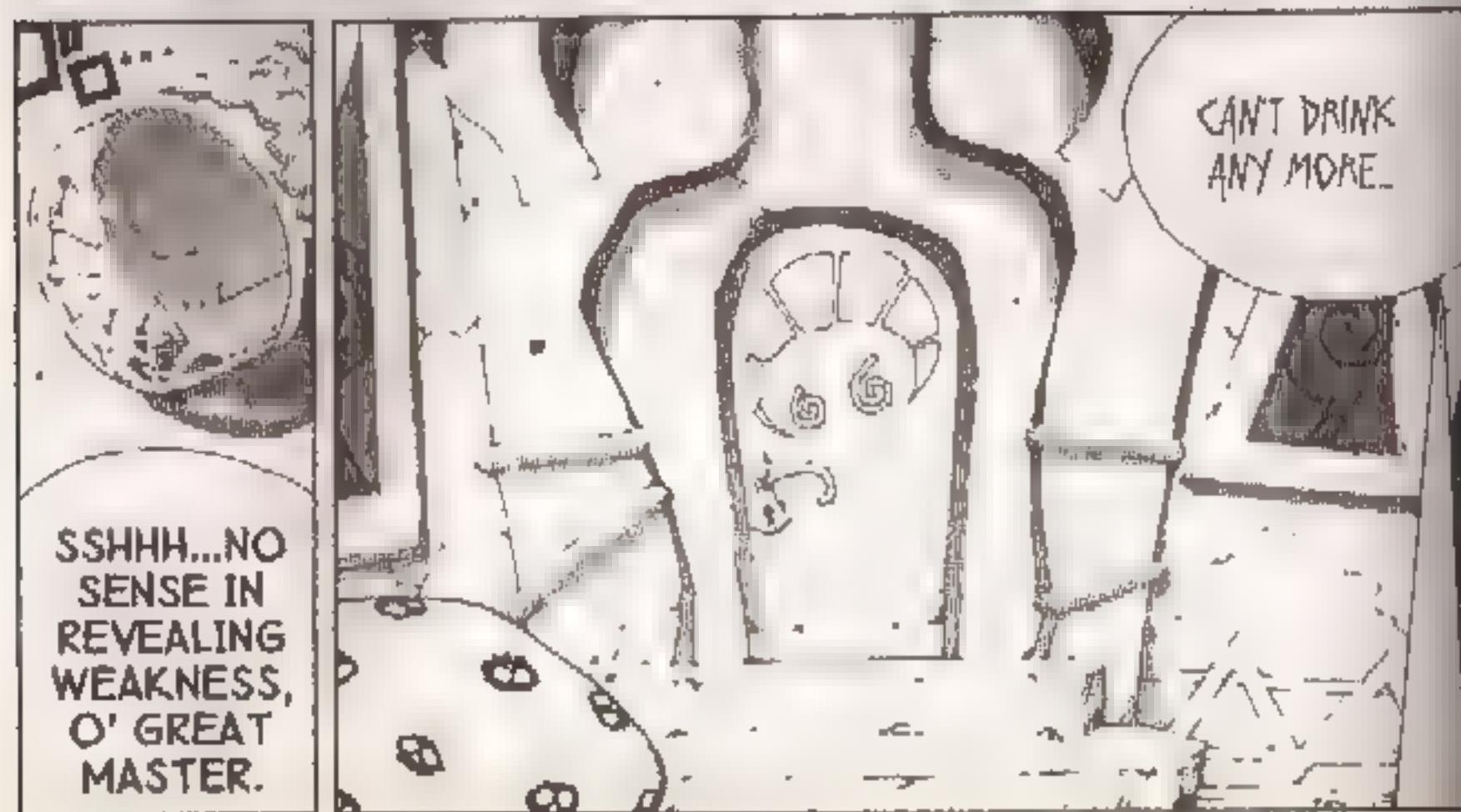
THE GIRL OF COLOR TOWN



**...THE CITY  
OF COLORS!!**

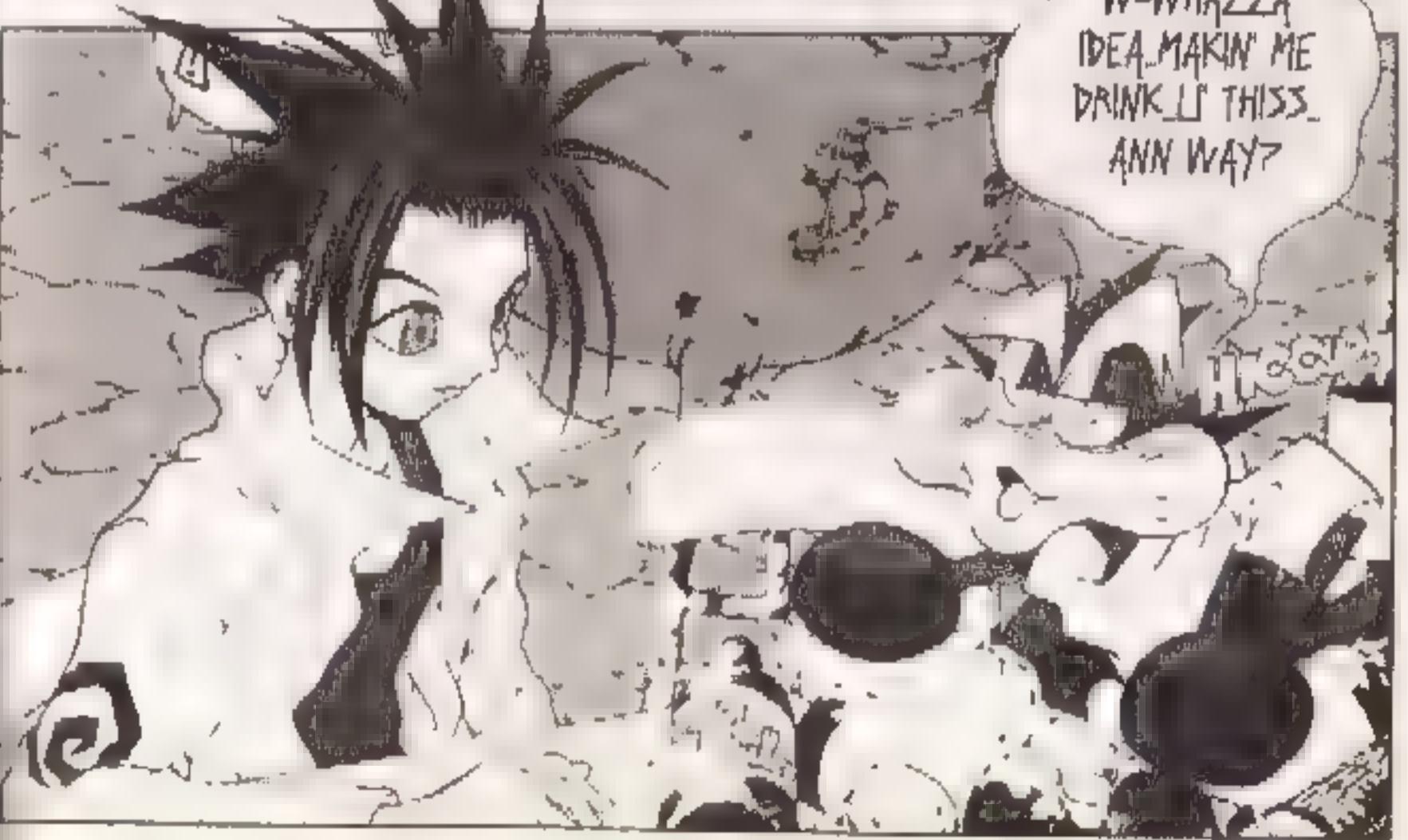


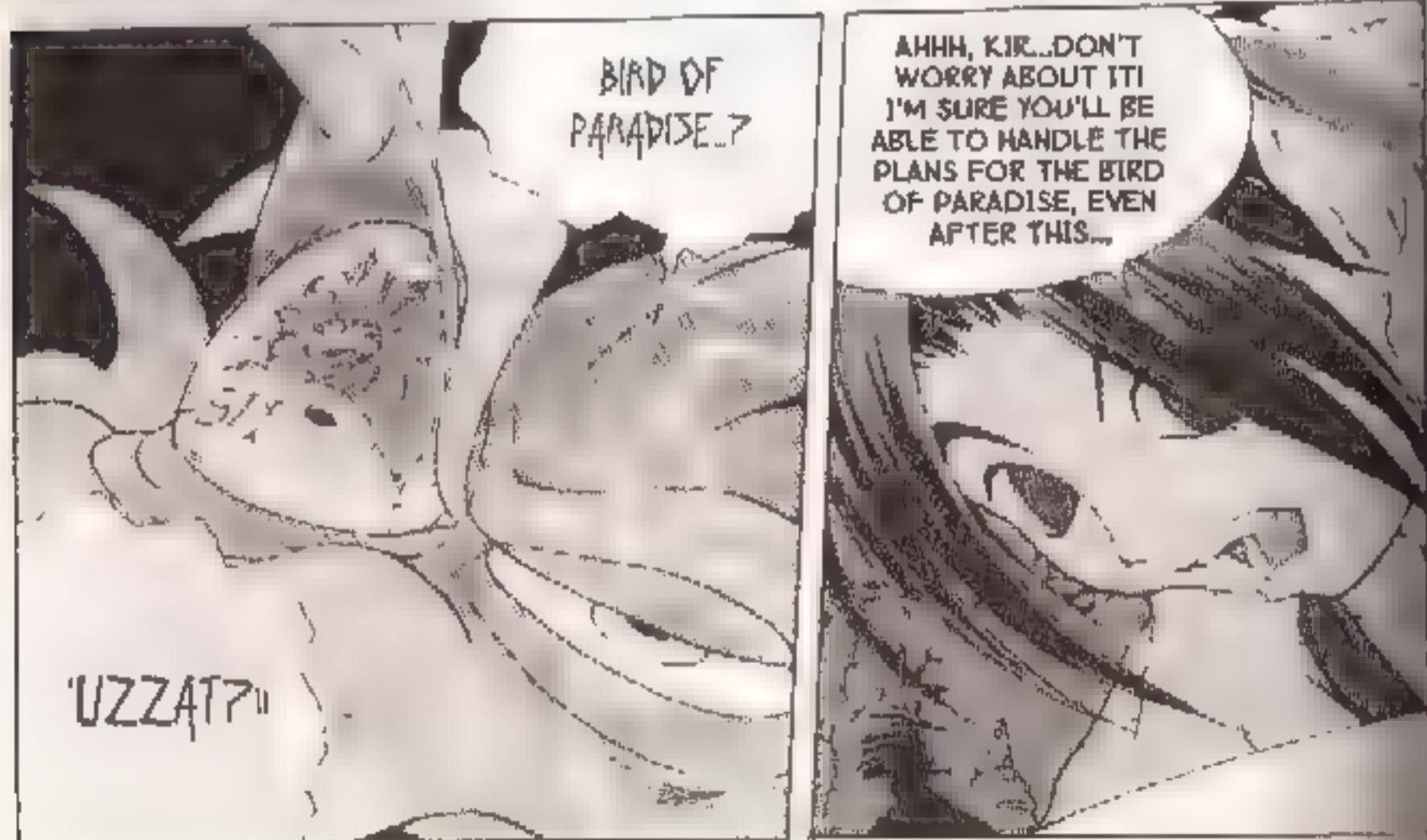
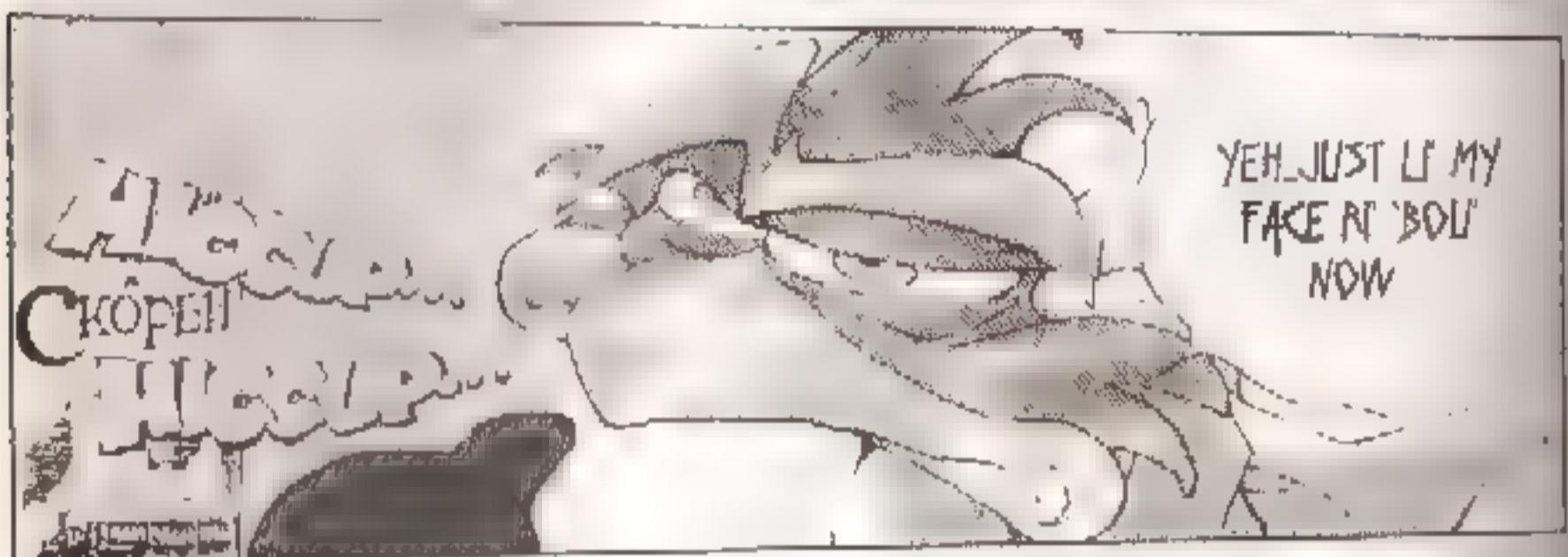
# 31st SHOT-GIRL ON AUCTION





W-WHAZZA  
IDEA MAKIN' ME  
DRINK IT THIS  
ANN WAY?





WELL, DON'T  
BLAME ME IF  
YOU HAVE A  
SLOW MEMORY.  
NOW, WHAT DID  
WE DISCUSS?  
FIRST...THE  
KITCHEN...

...AND THE  
MANSION...  
AUCTION...  
ONLY TWL...



...ALSO  
STRAYING...  
STEAMED  
CHICKEN...

BECAUSE...  
I'M...HEADING  
OUT, OKAY?!!

I'M...  
COUNTING  
ON YOU,  
KIRII

WHERE AM I? OH,  
THAT'S RIGHT JING  
SAID SOMETHING  
ABOUT A KITCHEN.

UHN?

OH, YEAH!  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT A BIRD  
OF PARADISE  
WAHH PU!

BUT WHY A  
KITCHEN I  
WONDER?

UGH THESE  
FELLOWS KINDA  
LOOK LIKE THEY'VE  
BEEN TO PARADISE  
AND BACK  
THEMSELVES

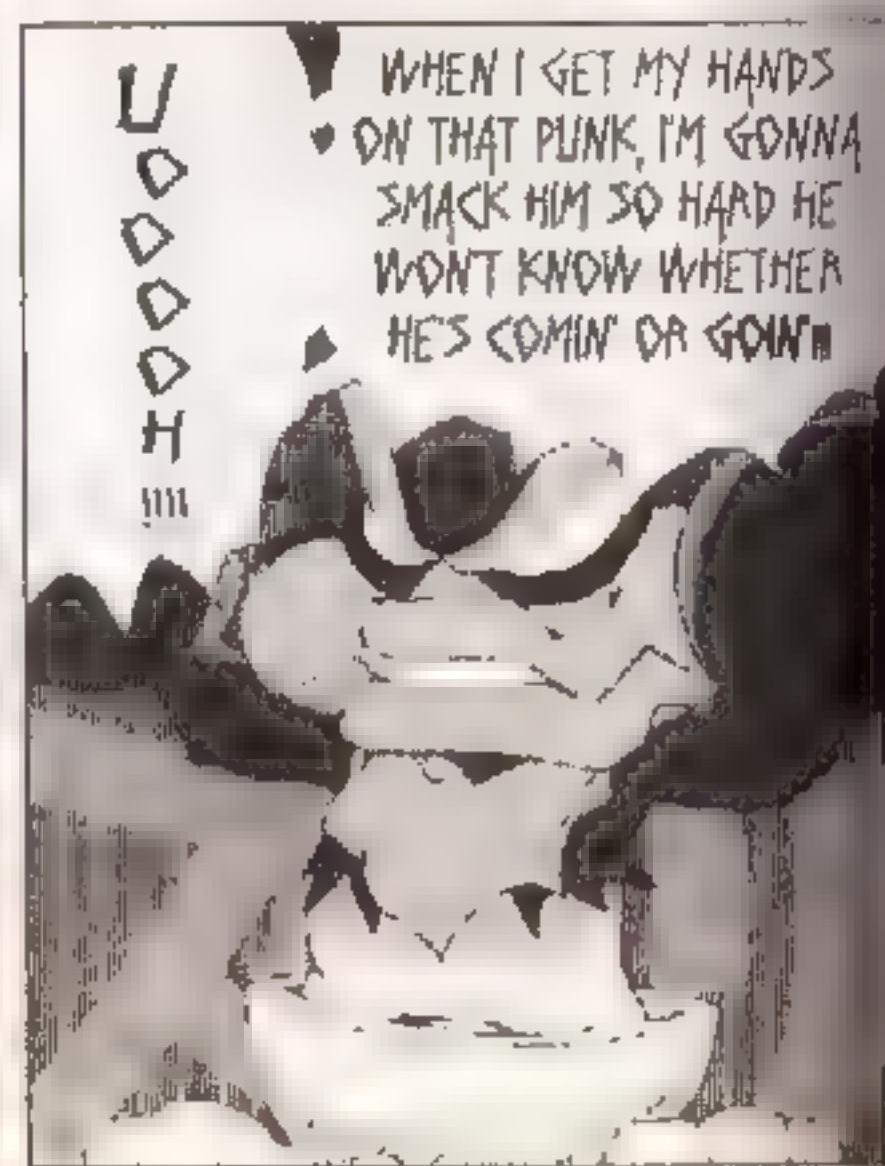
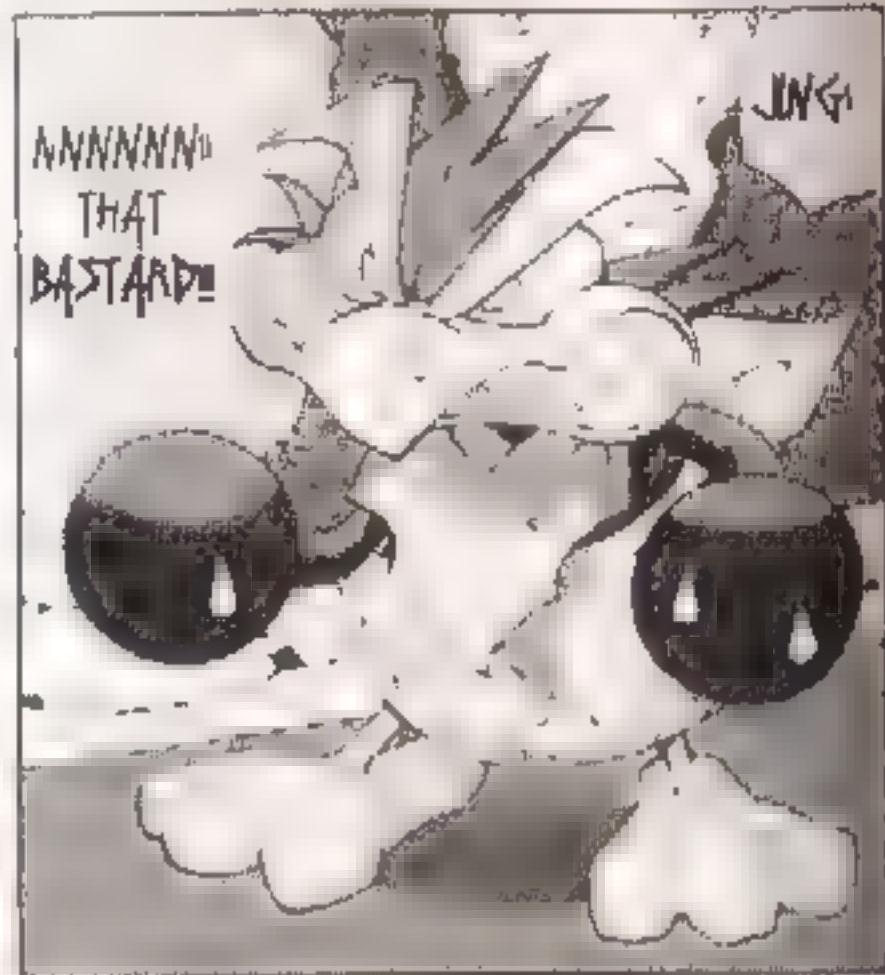
WAIT AN  
AUCTION. YEAH.  
IT'S AROUND HERE  
SOMEWHERE!!

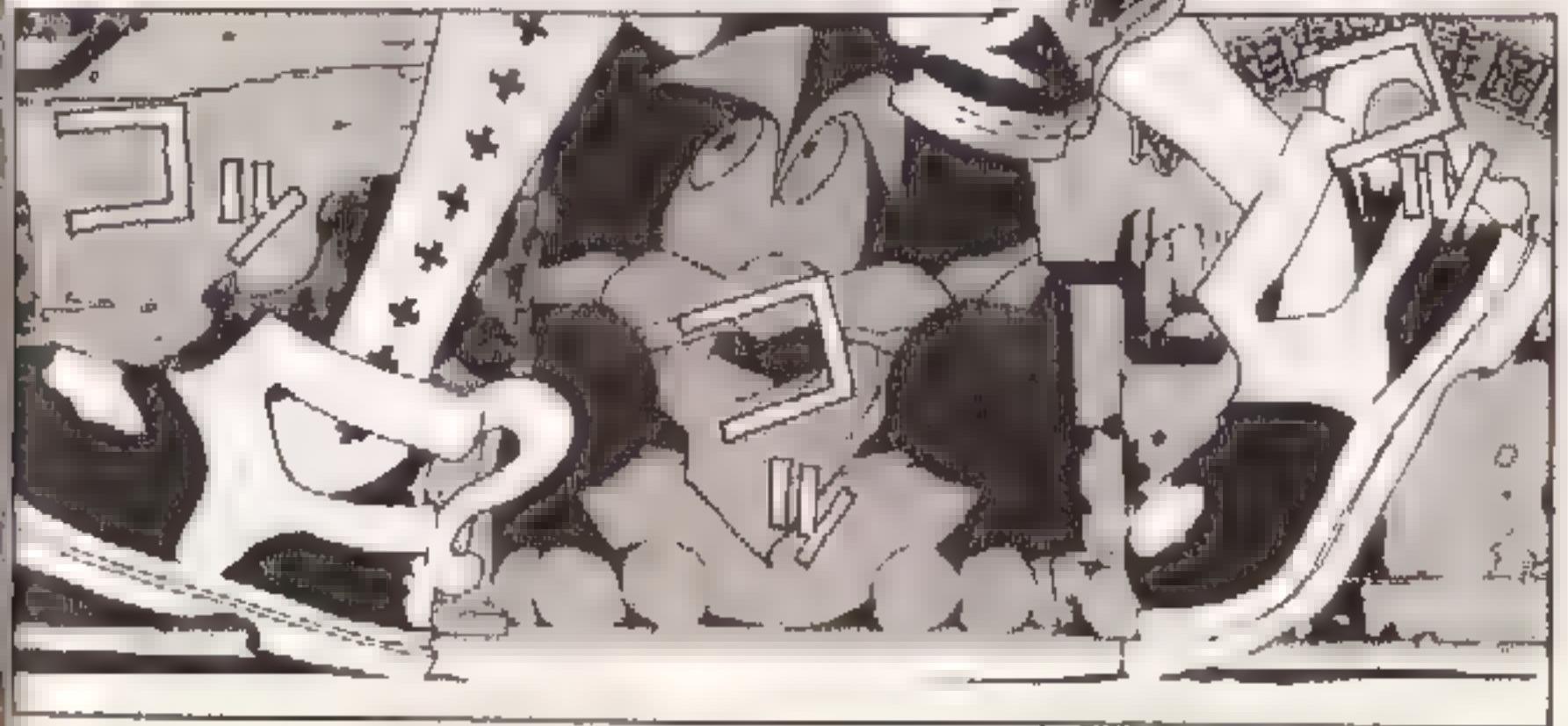
EH?!!

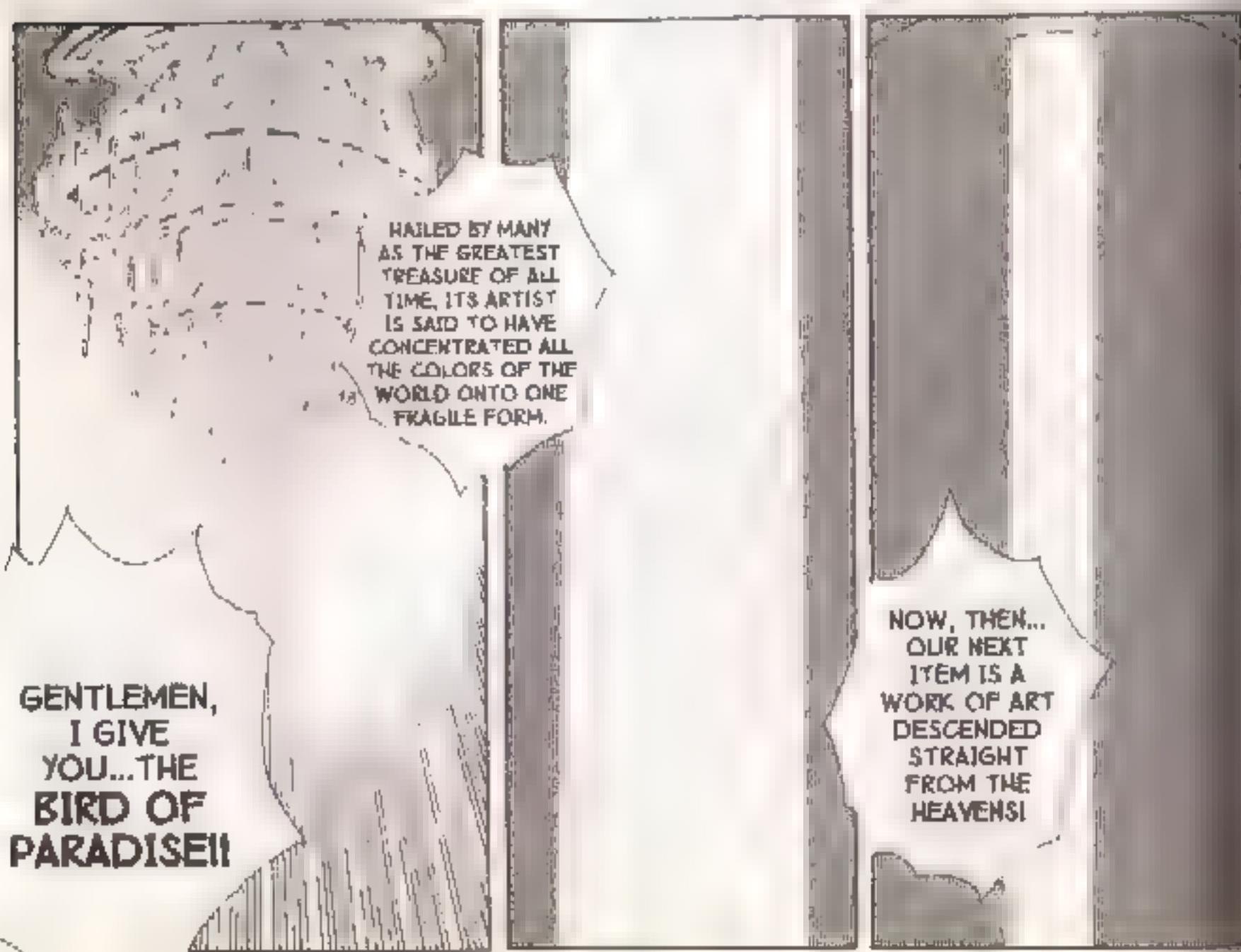
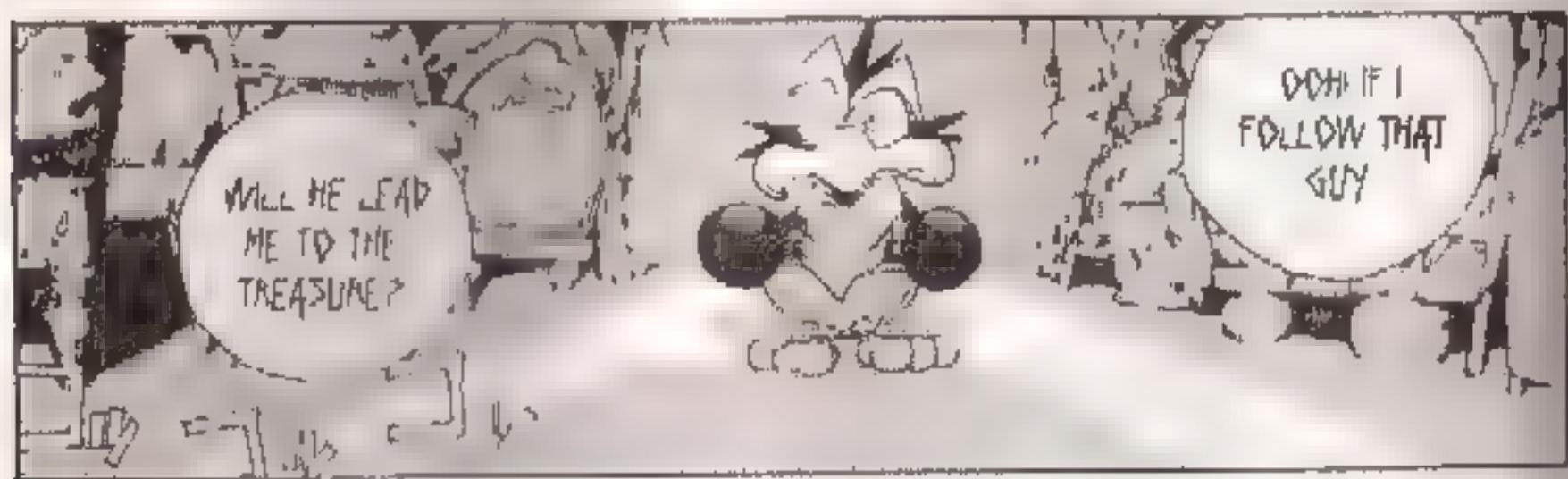
JESU JOY  
OF MAN'S  
DESIDRING

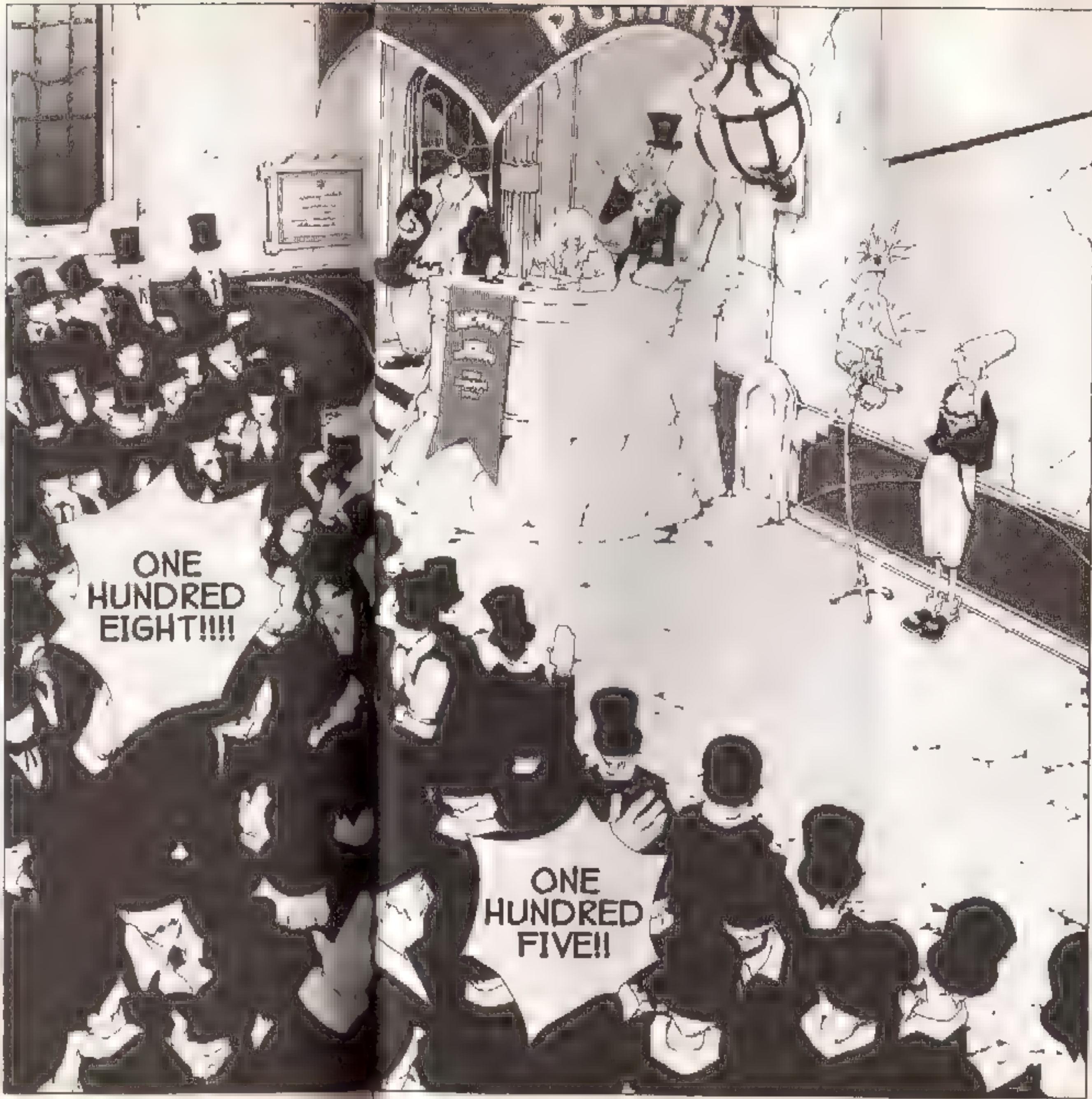
CHAR

GREAT JING  
RECOMMENDED  
ME AS TONIGHT'S  
MAIN COURSE









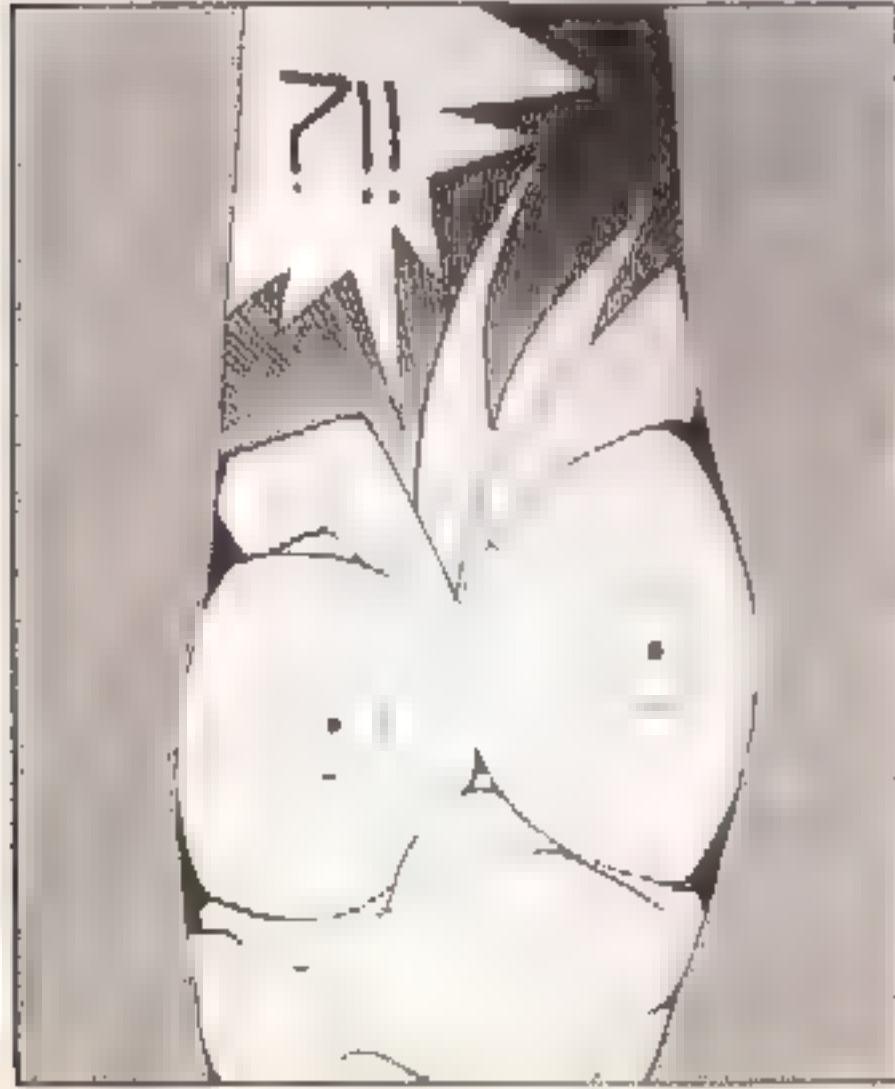
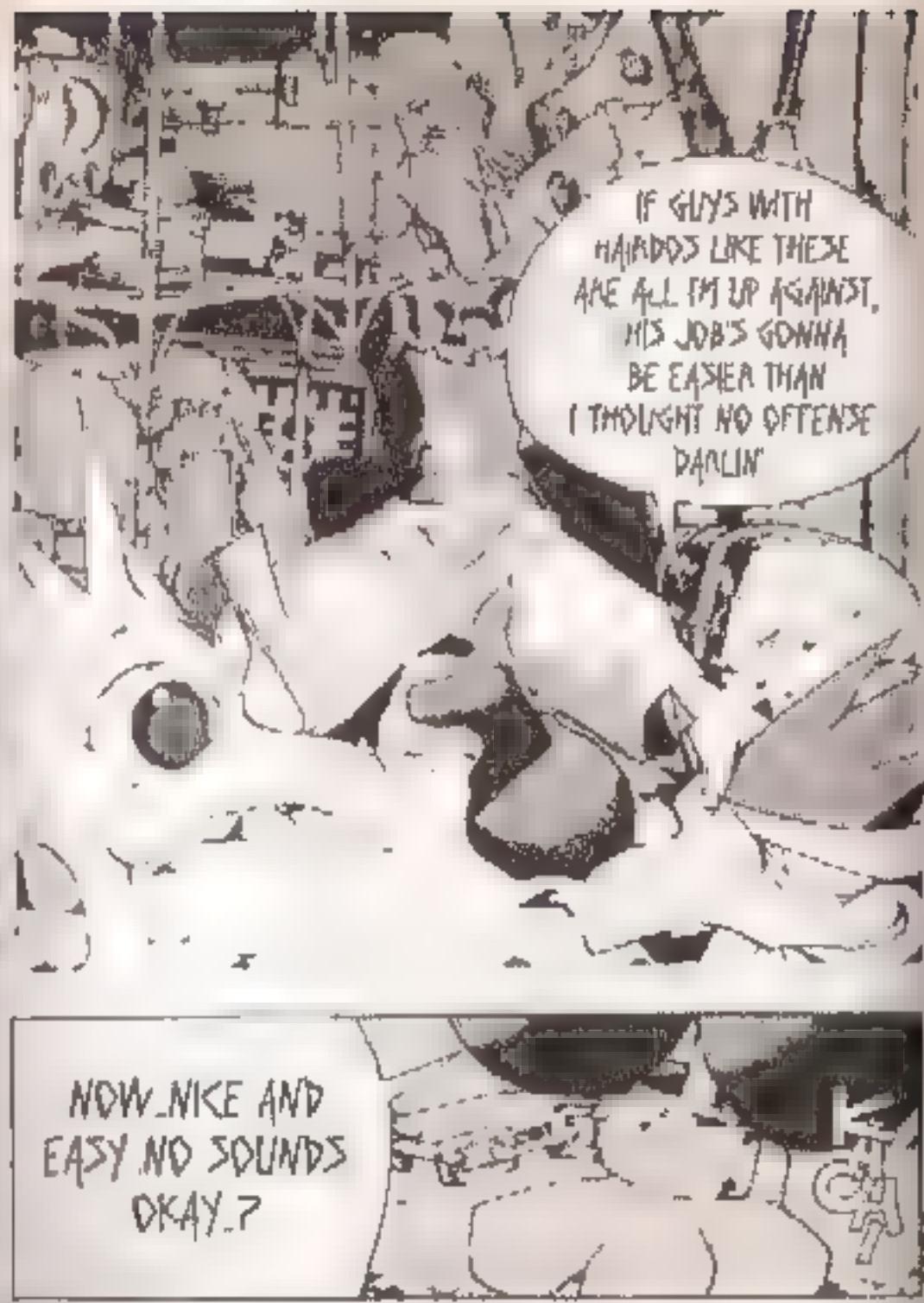
ANYONE FOR  
ONE THOUSAND  
SIX HUNDRED?

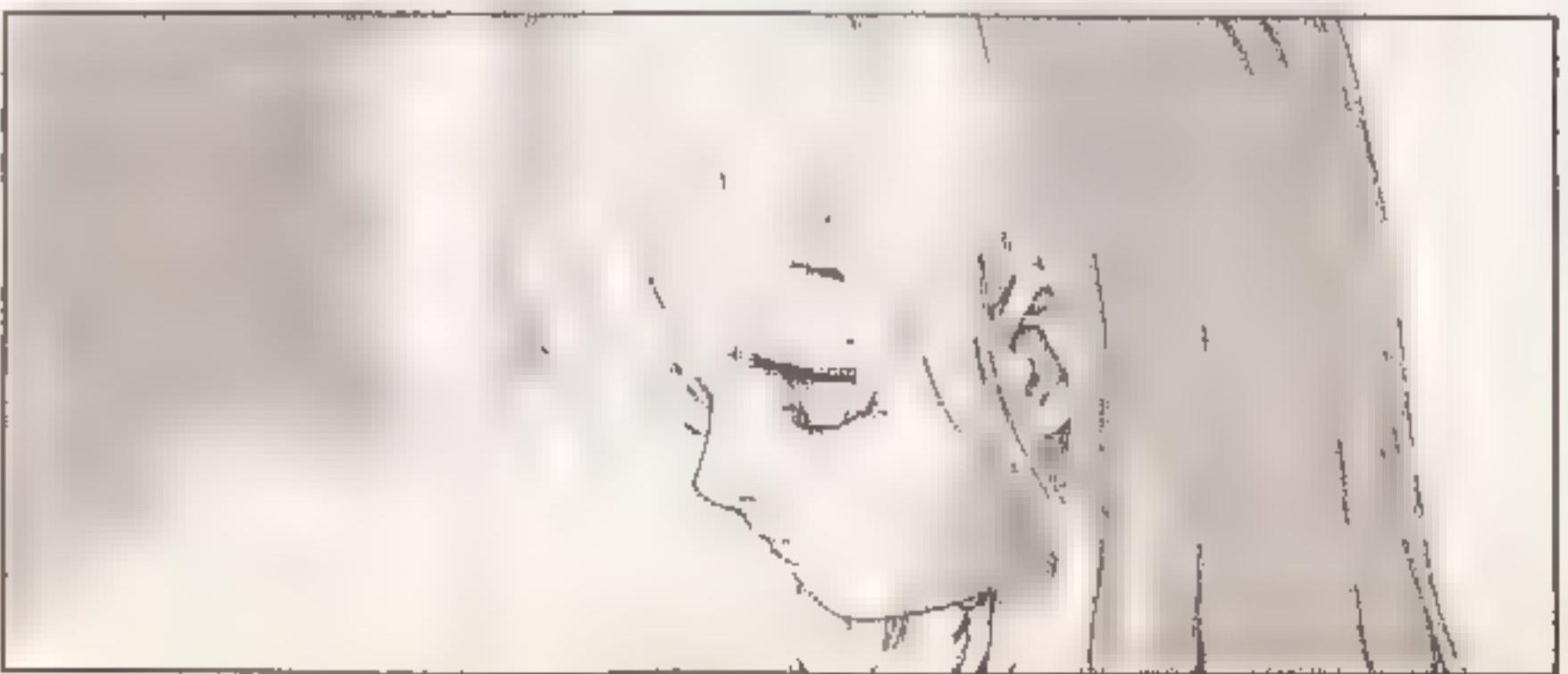
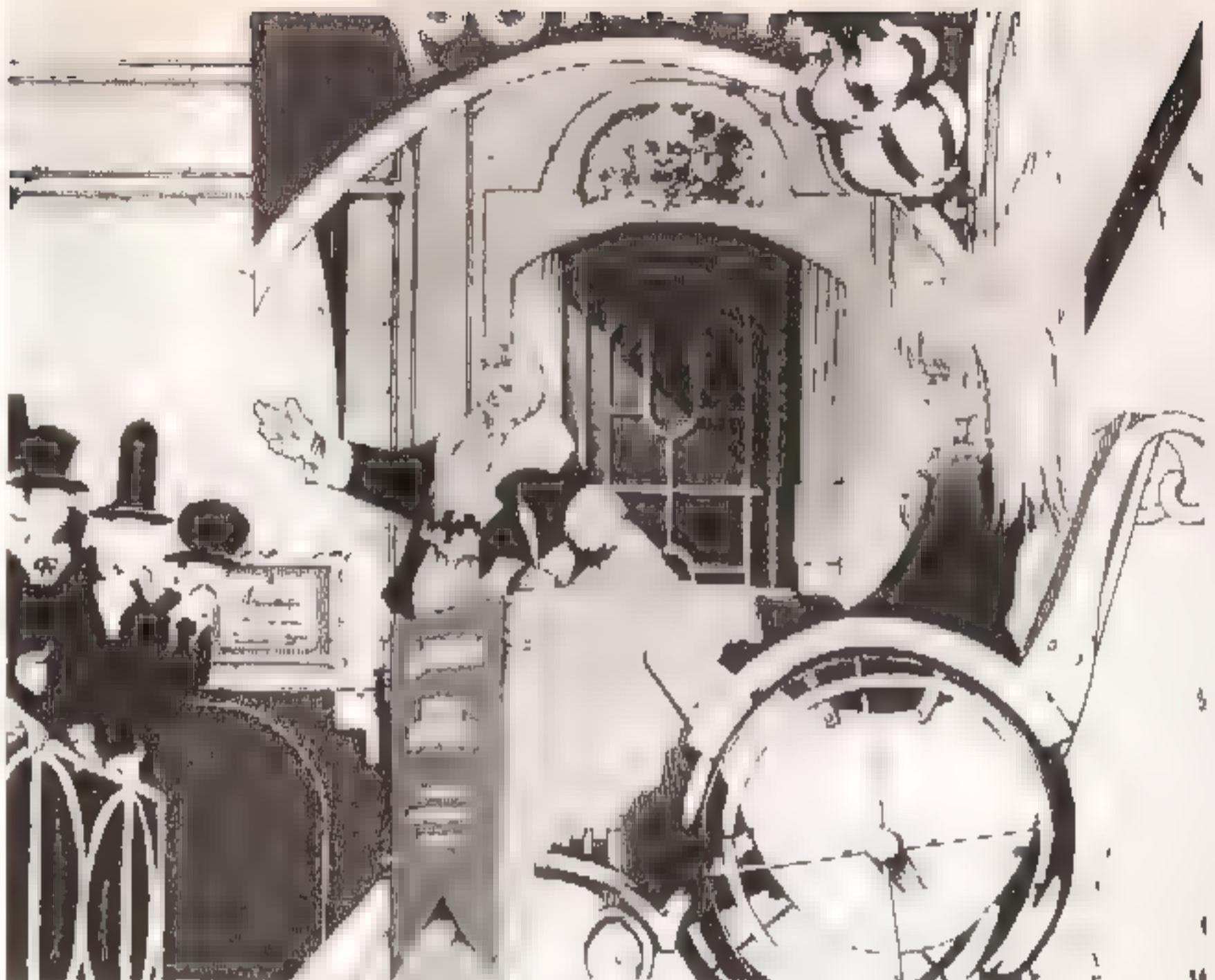
ONE THOUSAND  
FIVE HUNDRED...  
GOING ONCE...  
TWICE.

ONE  
THOUSAND  
FIVE  
HUNDRED!!!

SOLD TO MONSIEUR  
DRAMBUIE, FOR  
THE CLOSING BID  
OF ONE THOUSAND  
FIVE HUNDRED IN  
GOLD!!

I'LL CLOSE  
THIS BID.







WELL, WELL...  
THIS PIECE OF  
MERCANDISE  
HARDLY  
NEEDS ANY  
INTRODUCTION.

TWENTY-  
FIVE...NO--



SO, YOU  
ARE  
CURSED!

I thought you  
weren't like  
other ghosts!

WH-  
WHAT IS  
THAT?!!

WAAAAAH!!

HEY,  
THIS  
AIN'T A  
GHOST!!

REST  
IN  
PEACE!



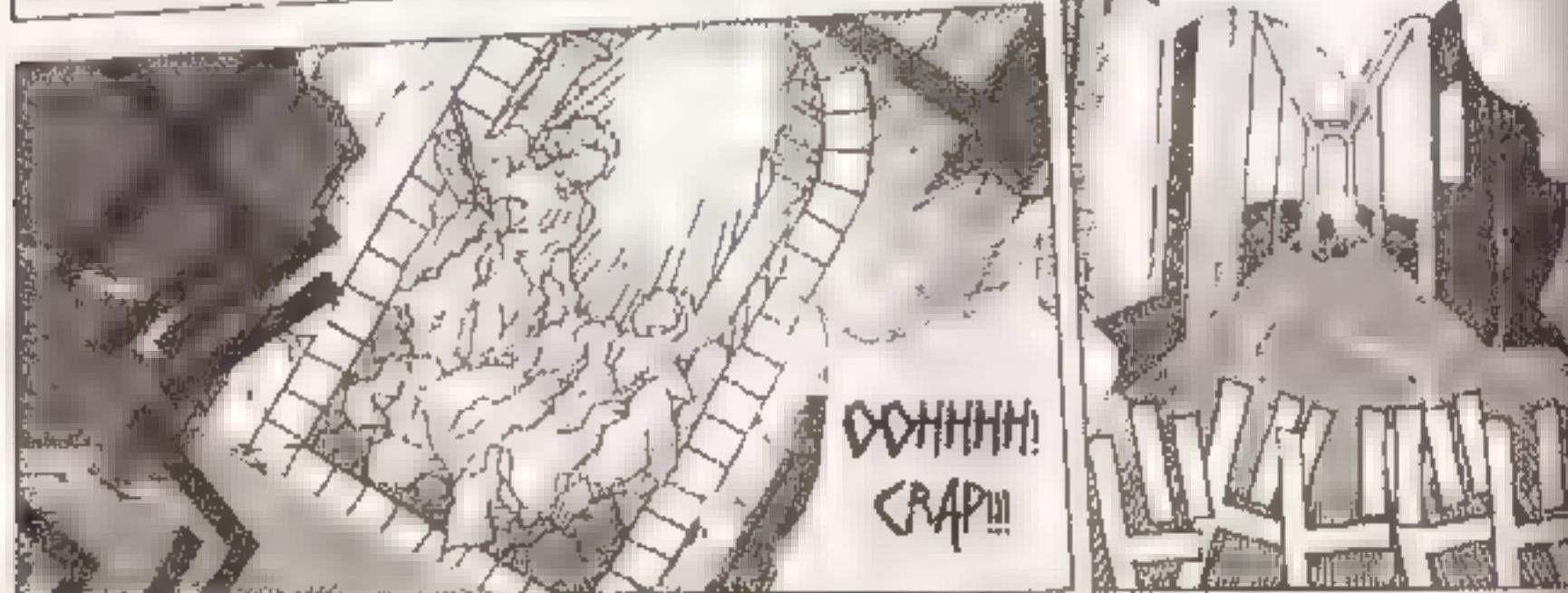
Meanwhile...



YOU!! WHERE  
D'Y'THINK  
YOU'RE  
TAKING MY  
MERCHANDISE?!!

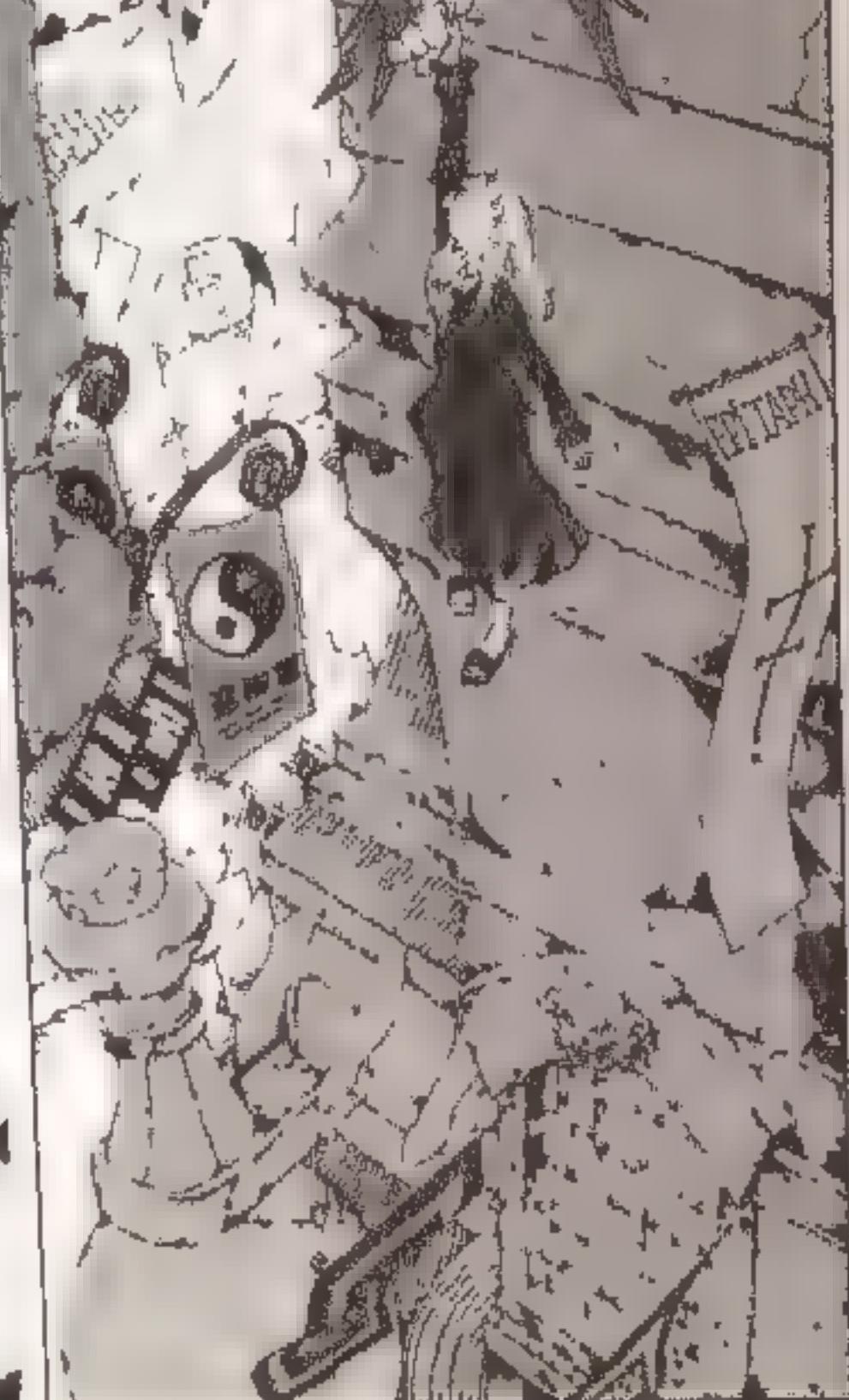
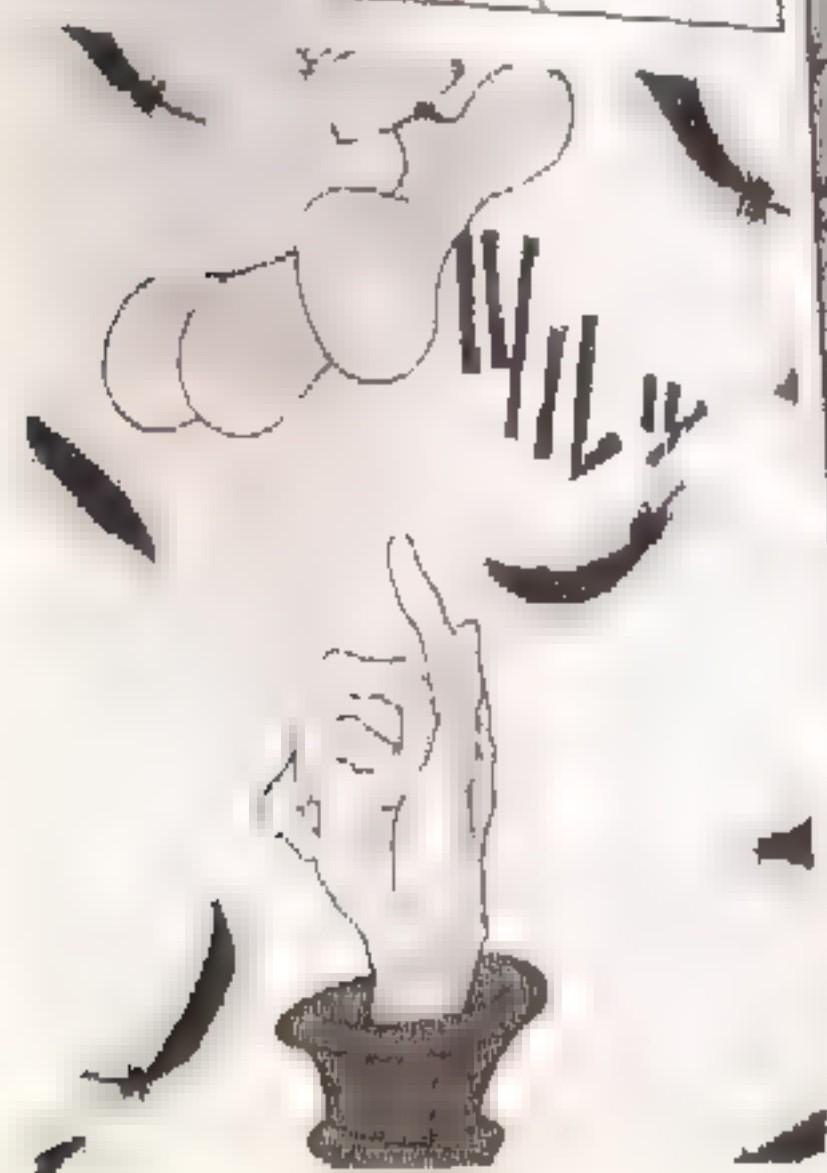


WHOOOOAAAHHH!



OHHHHH!  
CRAP!!!

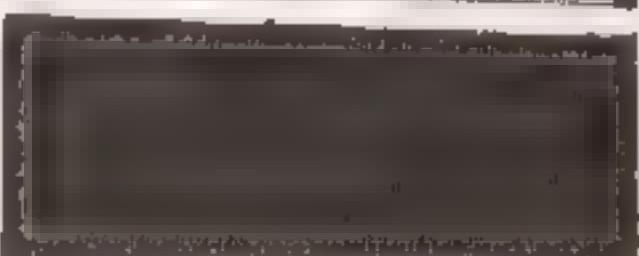
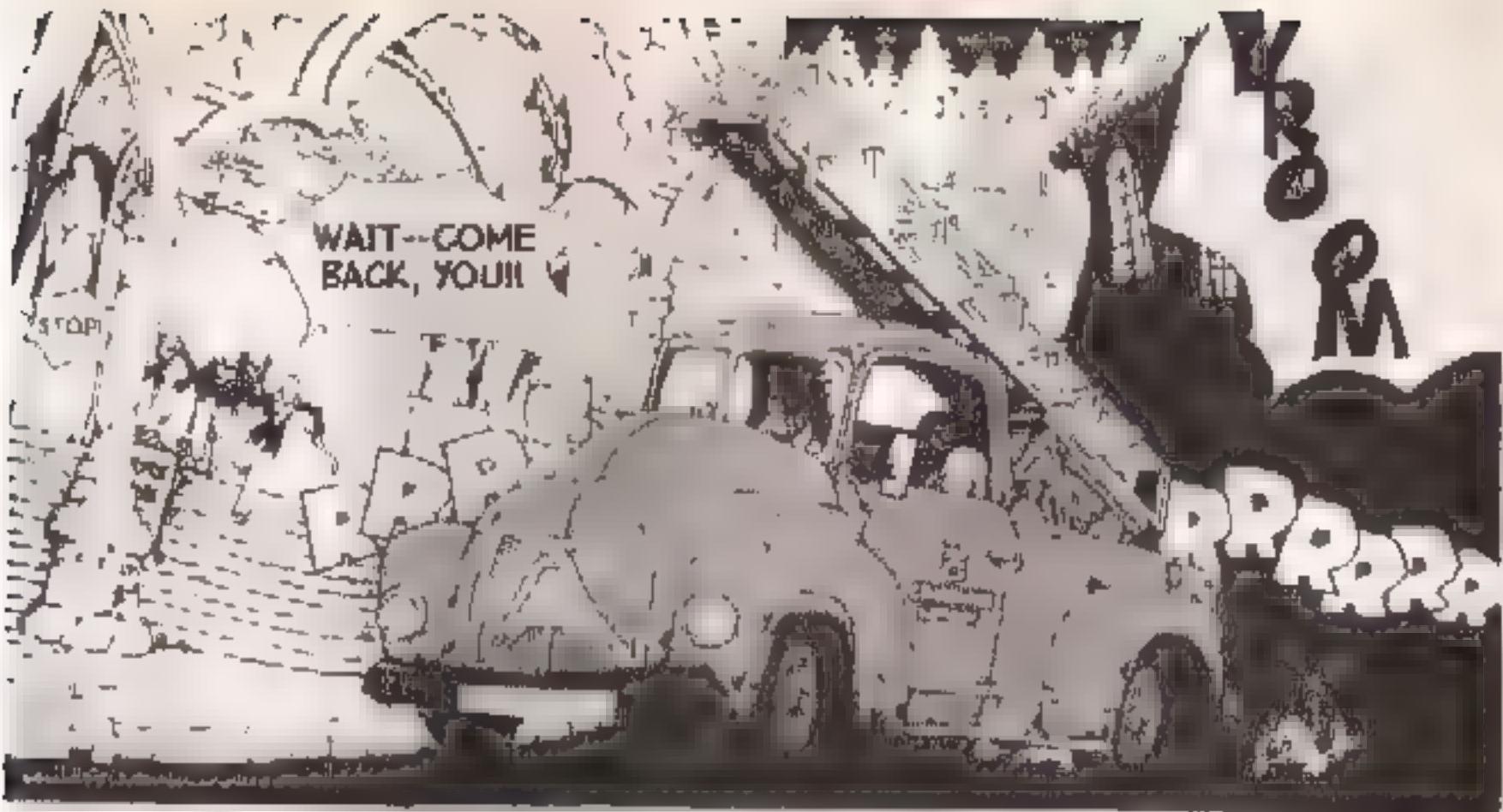


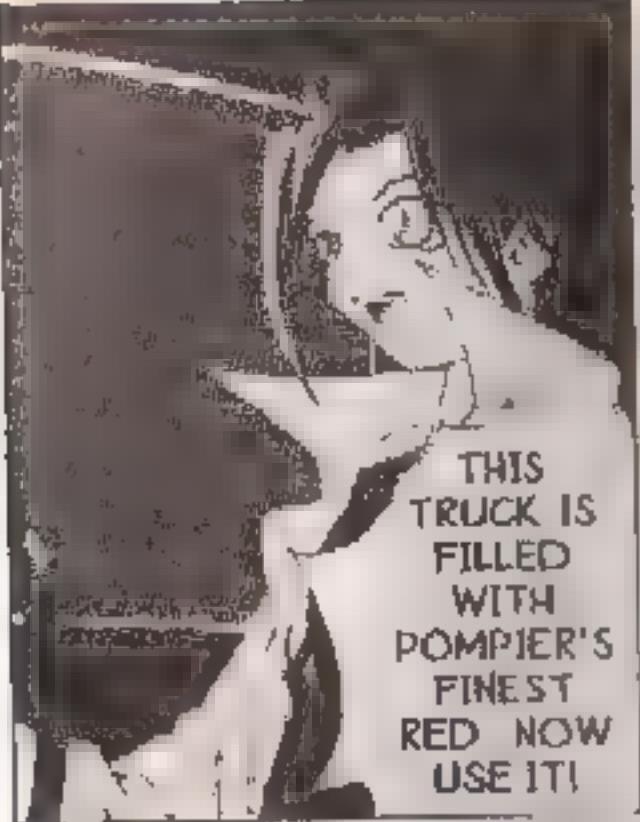


OH!





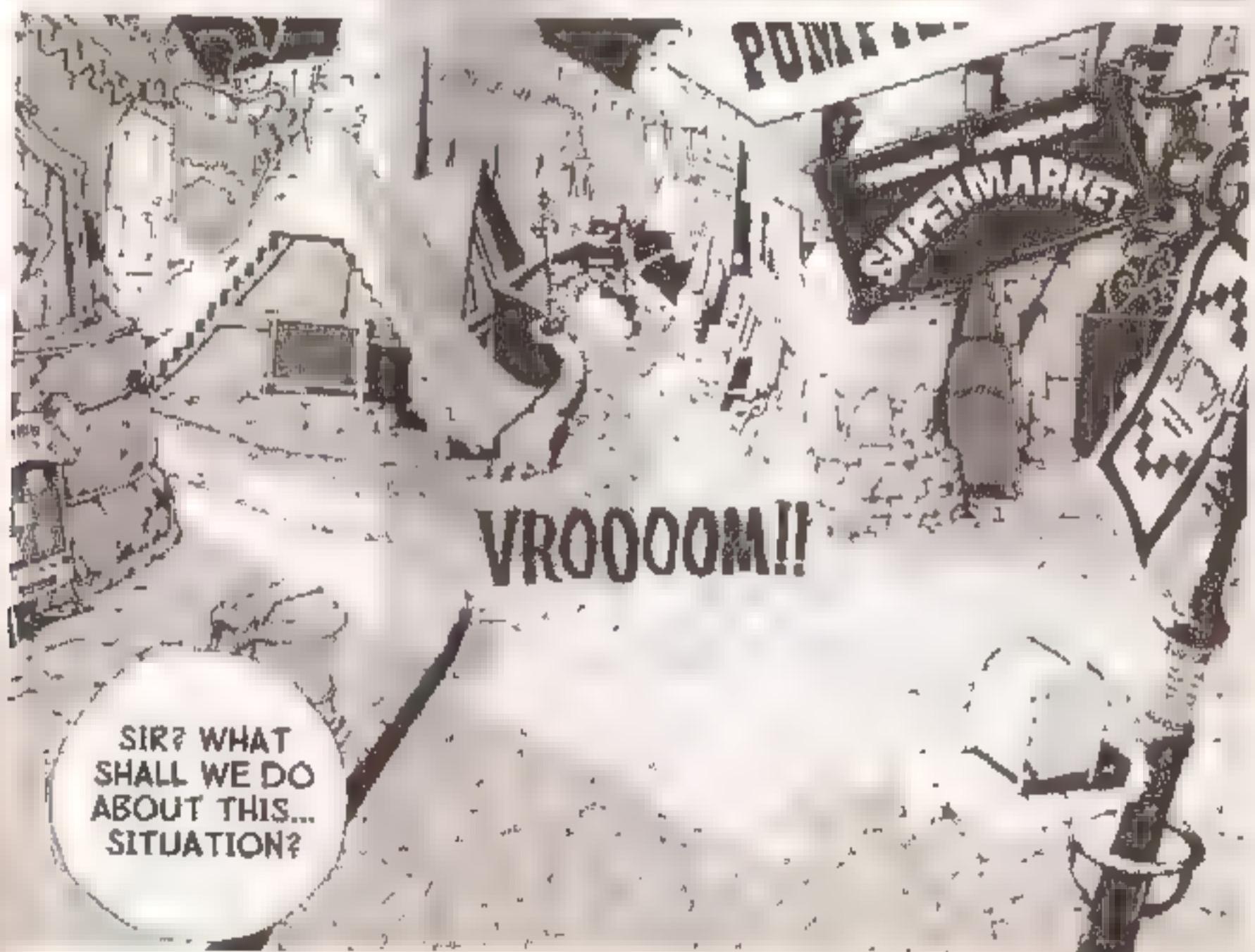
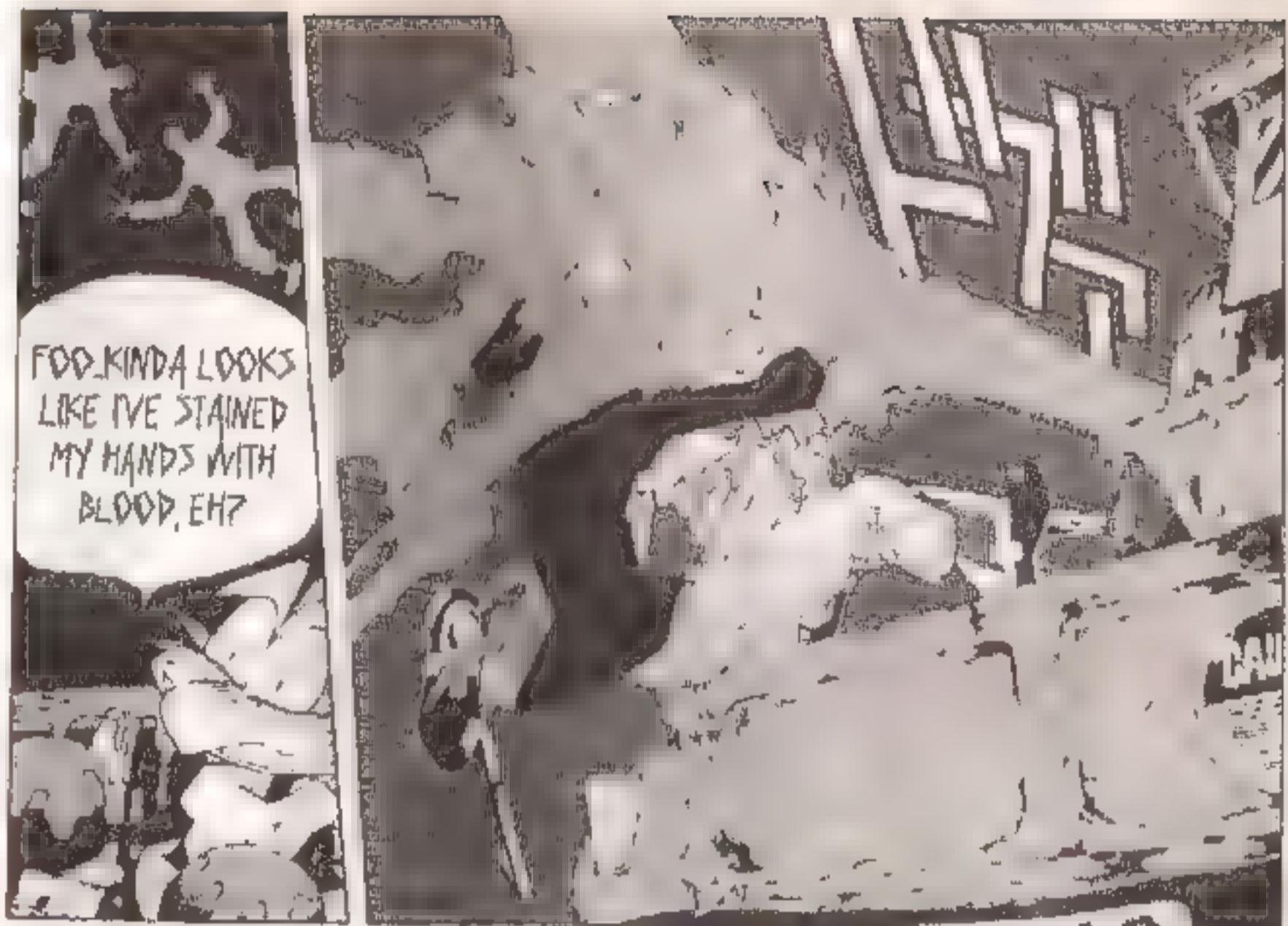


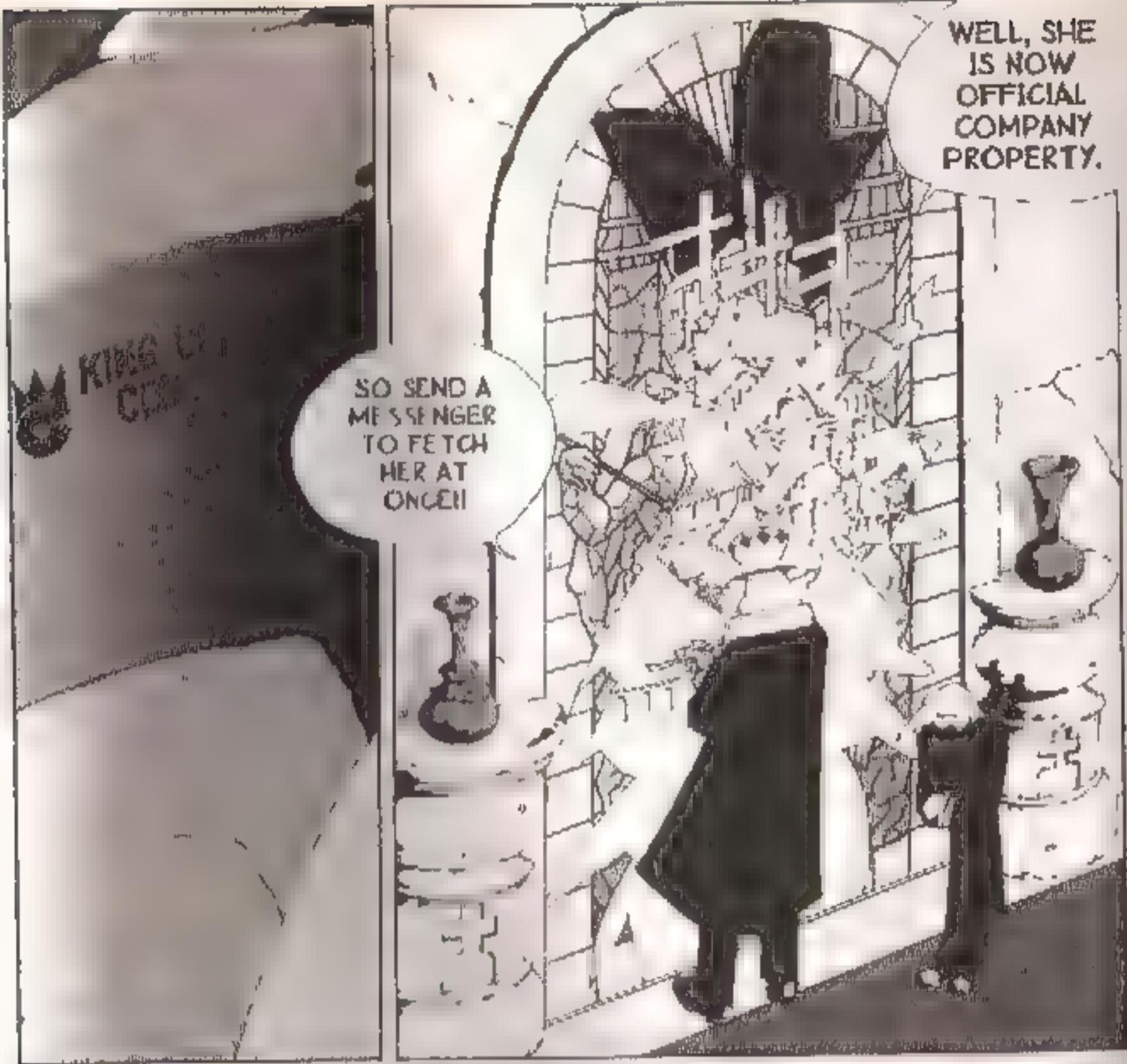


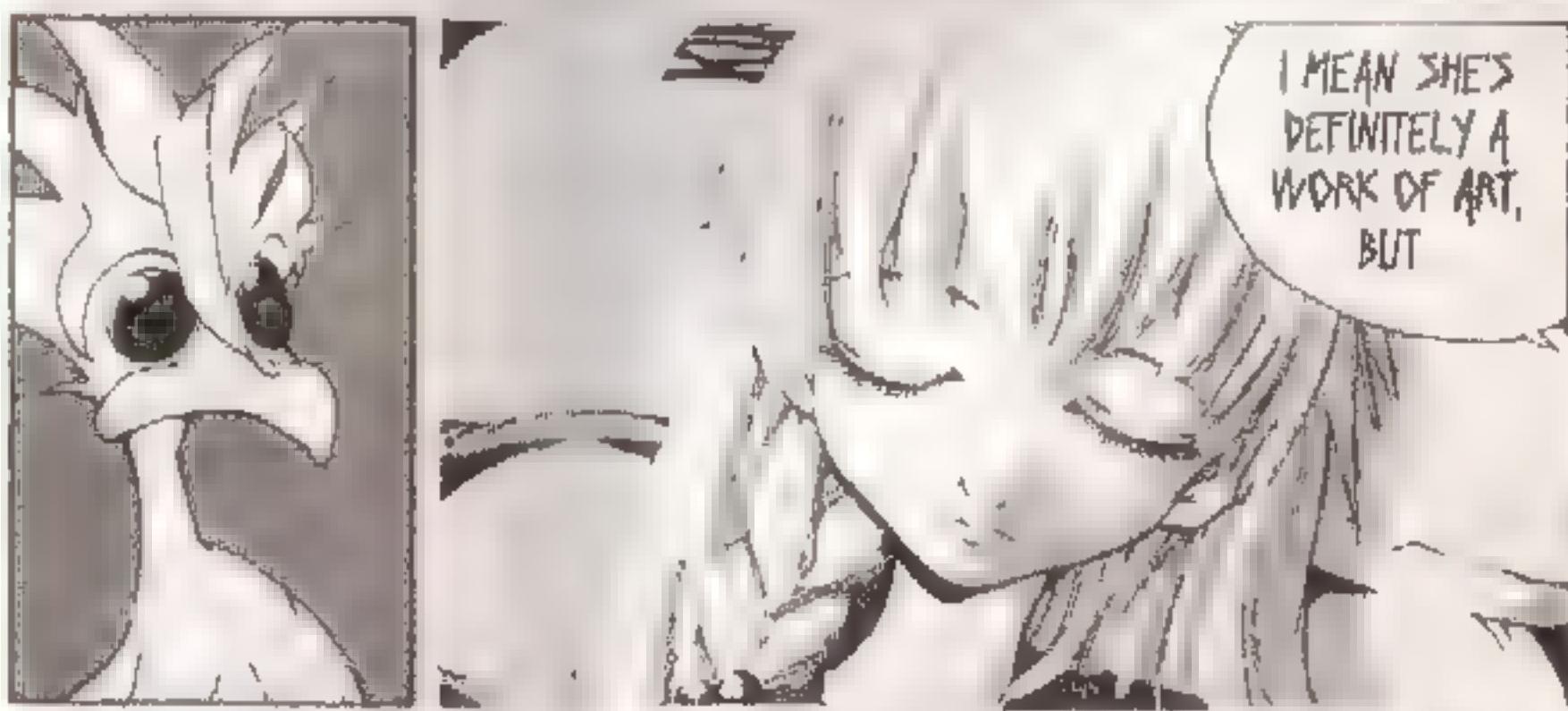
BINGO!  
THIS IS A  
PAINTING  
TRUCK,  
KIRII!

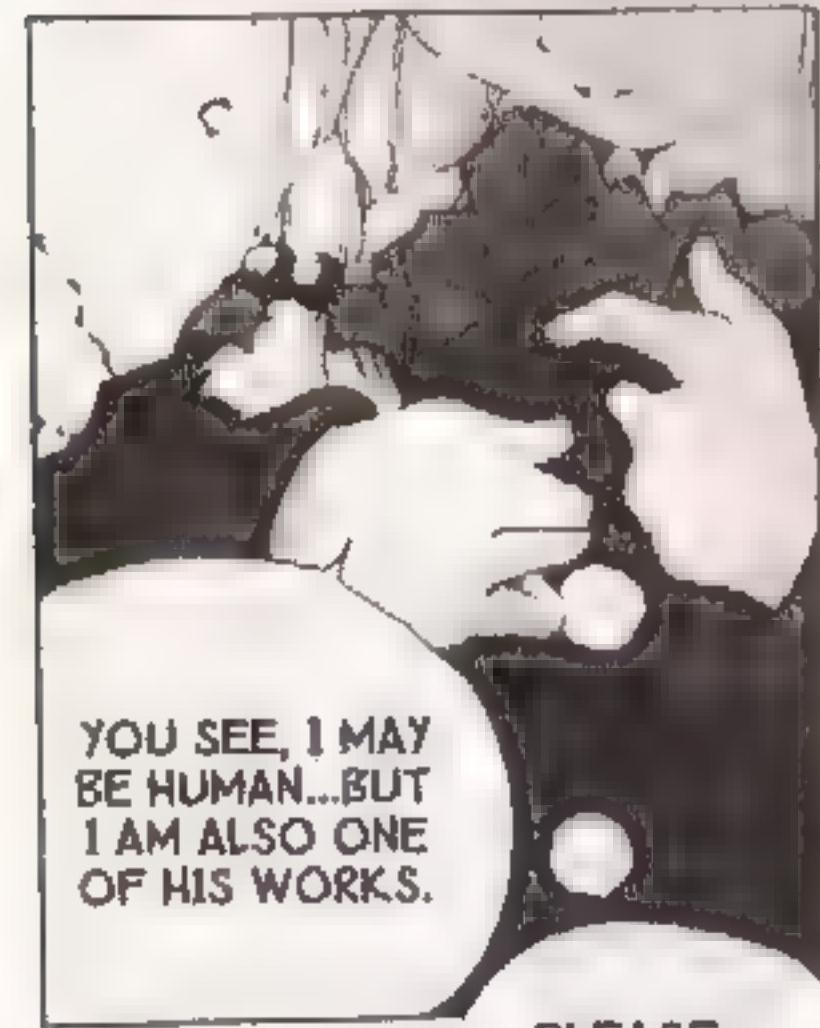
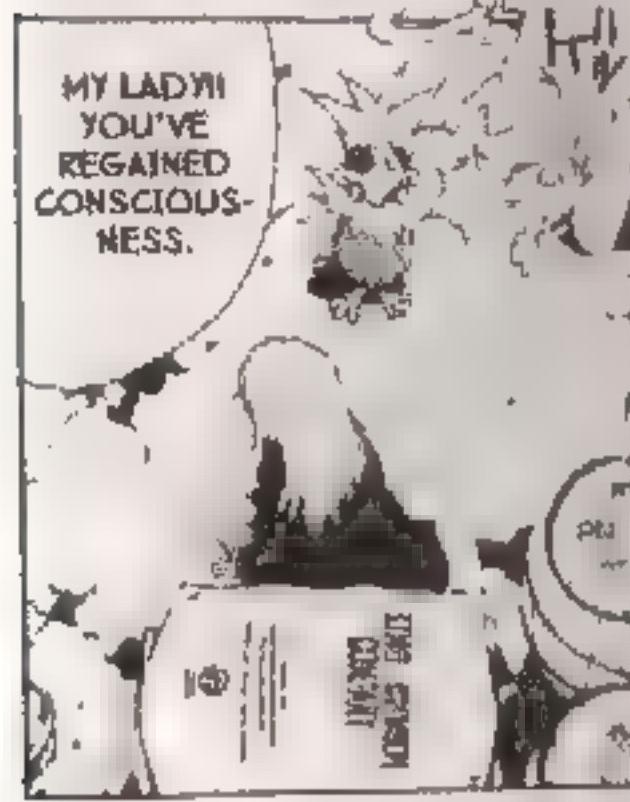
THIS  
TRUCK IS  
ILLED  
WITH  
POMPIER'S  
FINEST  
RED. NOW  
USE IT!



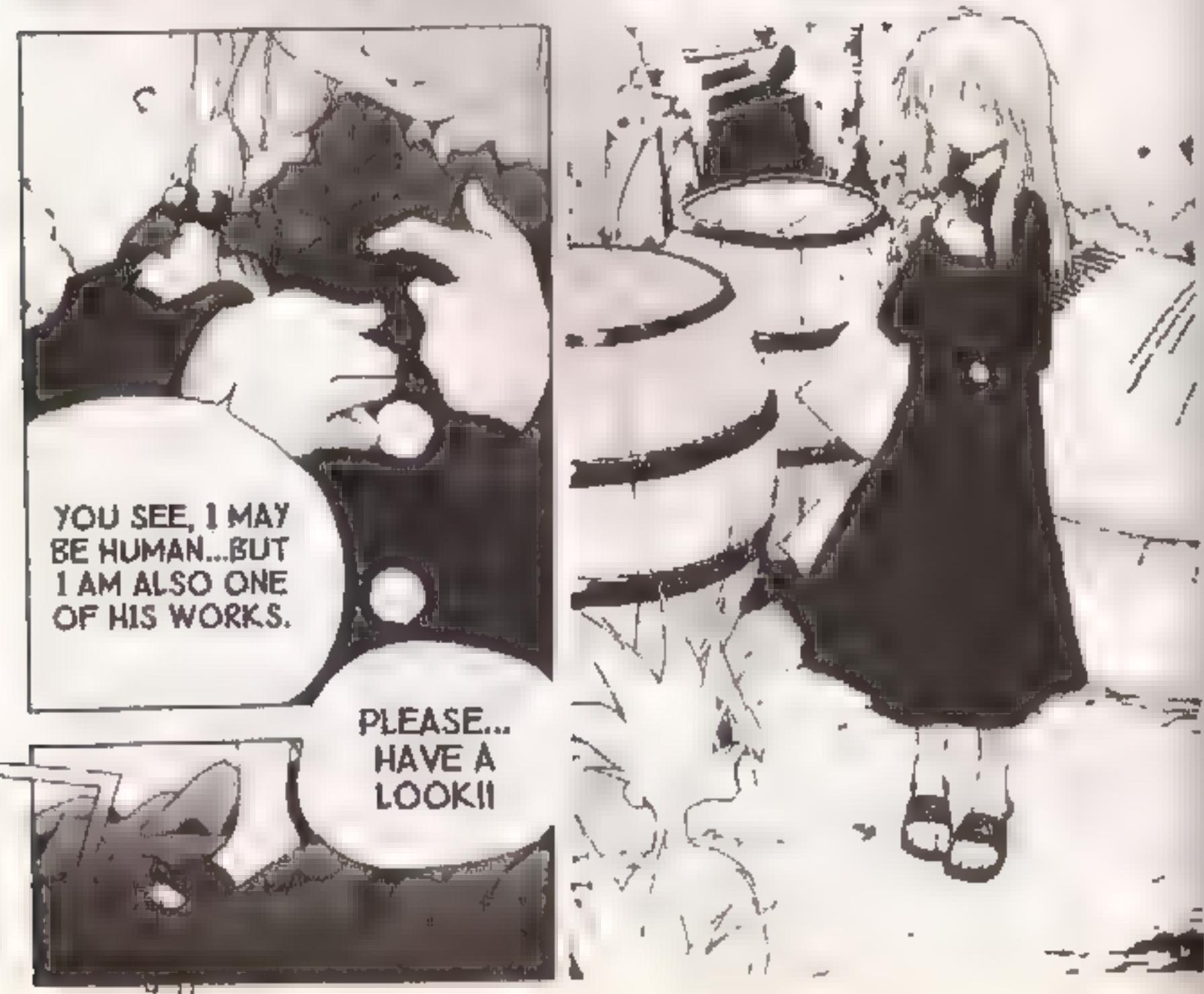








41



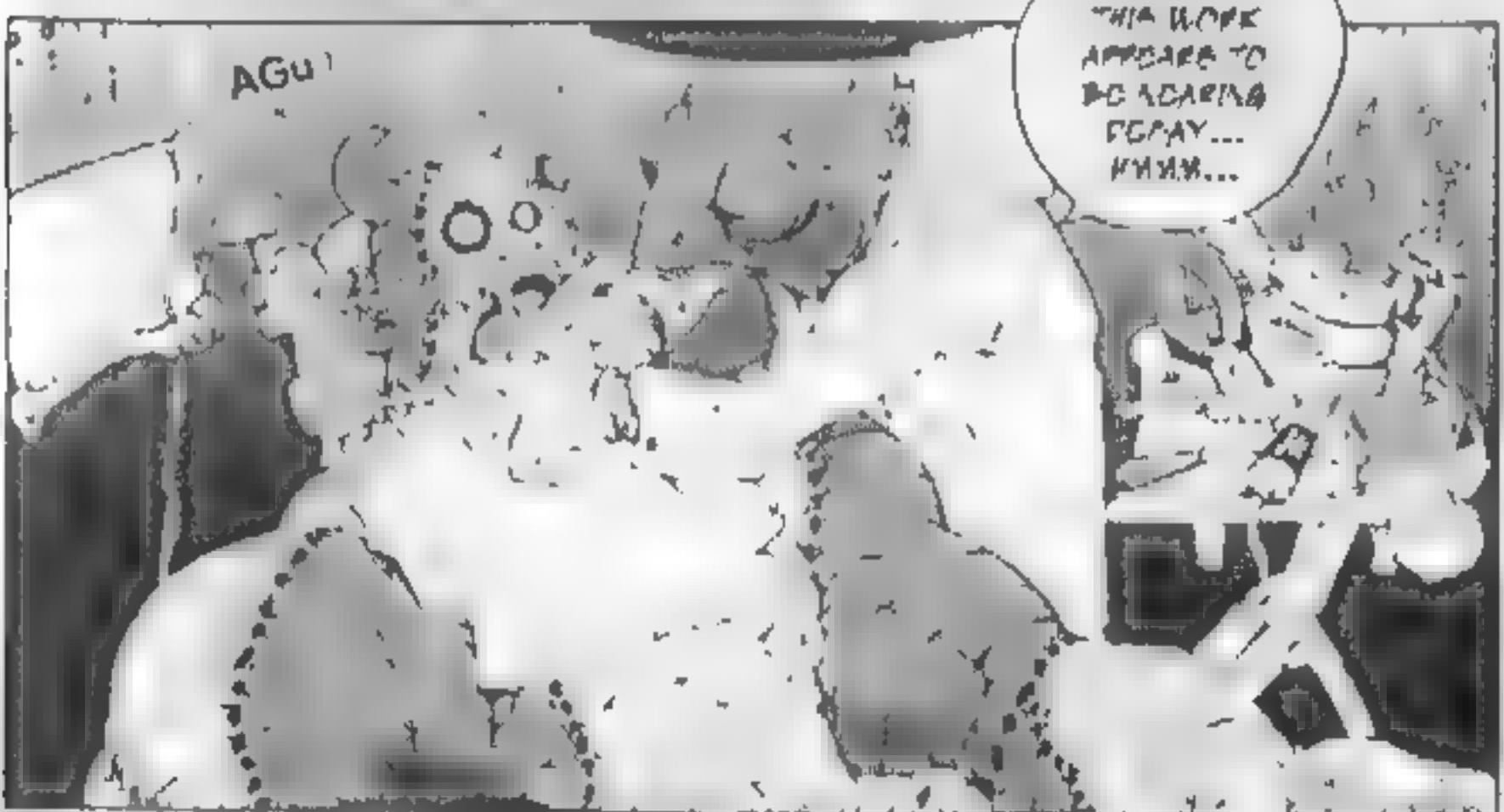


*a girl with a tattooed heart  
in  
pompier*



## 32nd SHOT - SPICKMARKET





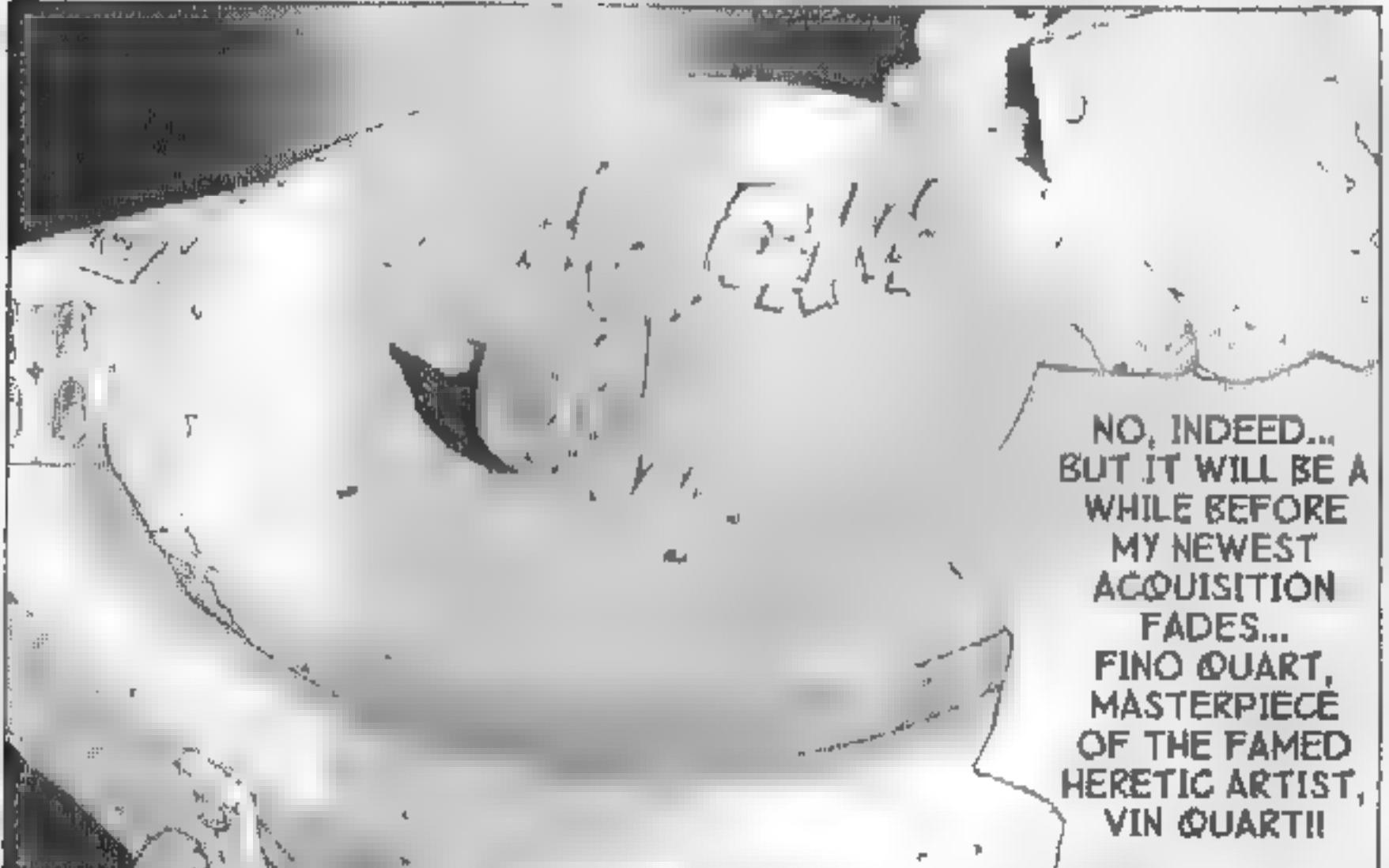
IF I MAY SAY SO,  
DEAR DR. DOKE,  
MERCHANDISE  
SUPERVISION HAS  
BECOME QUITE  
INCOMPETENT.

WOULD YOU  
DO ME THE  
HONOR OF A  
HOUSE CALL?

ANAHANA SERIOUSLY,  
THOUGH WHILE I  
CANNOT AFFORD TO  
ADMIT INCOMPETENCE  
EVERYONE'S WORK  
HAS ITS FRACTION  
OF INEFFECTIVENESS.

AT LEAST ONE  
ITEM FROM  
KOLAR WONT BE  
YOUR PROBLEM  
FOR A DAY

SOME MIGHT CALL  
IT THAT, DOKTOR.  
I MYSELF PREFER  
THE TERM  
"CAPTIVATING."  
**BORKED**



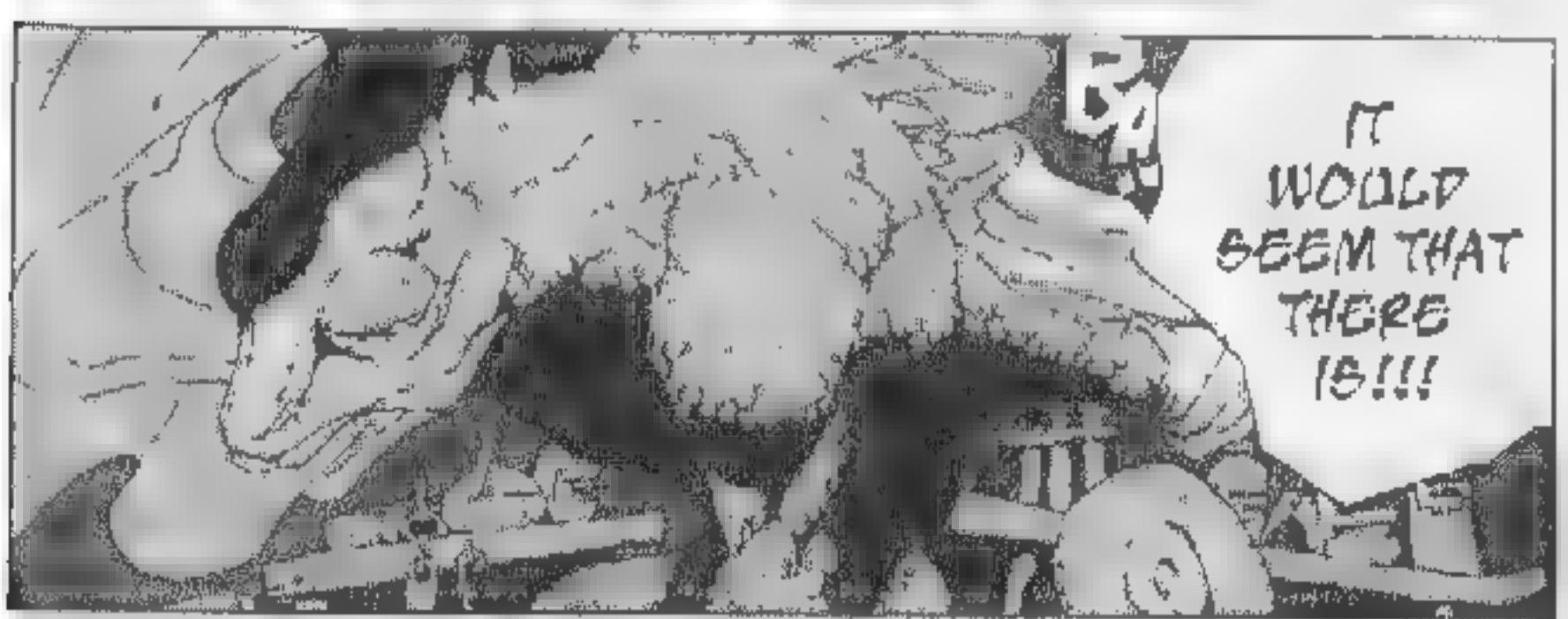
NO, INDEED...  
BUT IT WILL BE A  
WHILE BEFORE  
MY NEWEST  
ACQUISITION  
FADES...  
**FINO QUART,**  
MASTERPIECE  
OF THE FAMED  
HERETIC ARTIST,  
VIN QUART!!



MY OPERATIVES  
ARE LOCATING  
HELP WITHIN  
THE CITY AS WE  
SPEAK... THERE'S  
NO NEED FOR  
CONCERN



WELL, IF IT  
CONTINUES TO AD-  
MISSING, YOUR  
MASTERPIECE'S  
GARAGE WILL SOON  
BE NO DIFFERENT  
FROM THAT OF A  
WEINELY OLD  
WOMAN.



IT  
WOULD  
SEEM THAT  
THERE  
IS!!!

THEN THIS  
PAINTING ON  
YOUR BODY  
IS YOUR  
FATHER SP.



PAPER, CLOTH,  
ROCKS, AND EVEN  
ANIMALS... THE ENTIRE  
WORLD BECAME VIN  
QUART'S PERSONAL  
WORK OF ART, SO  
TO SPEAK.

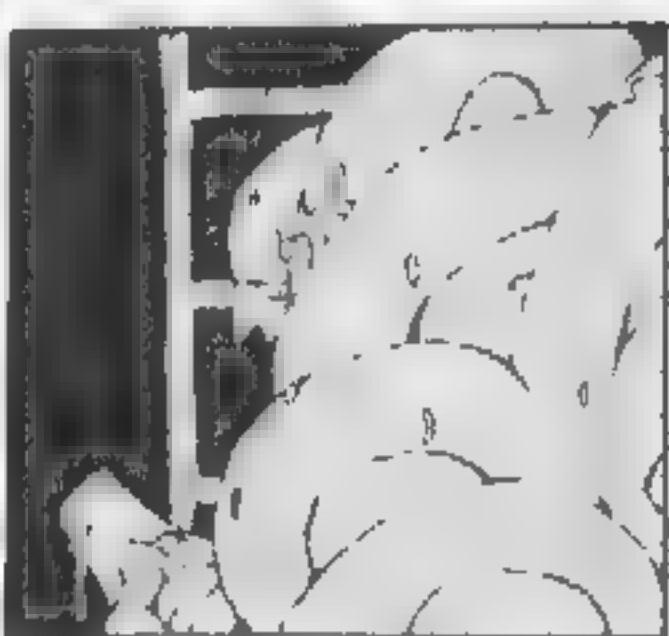
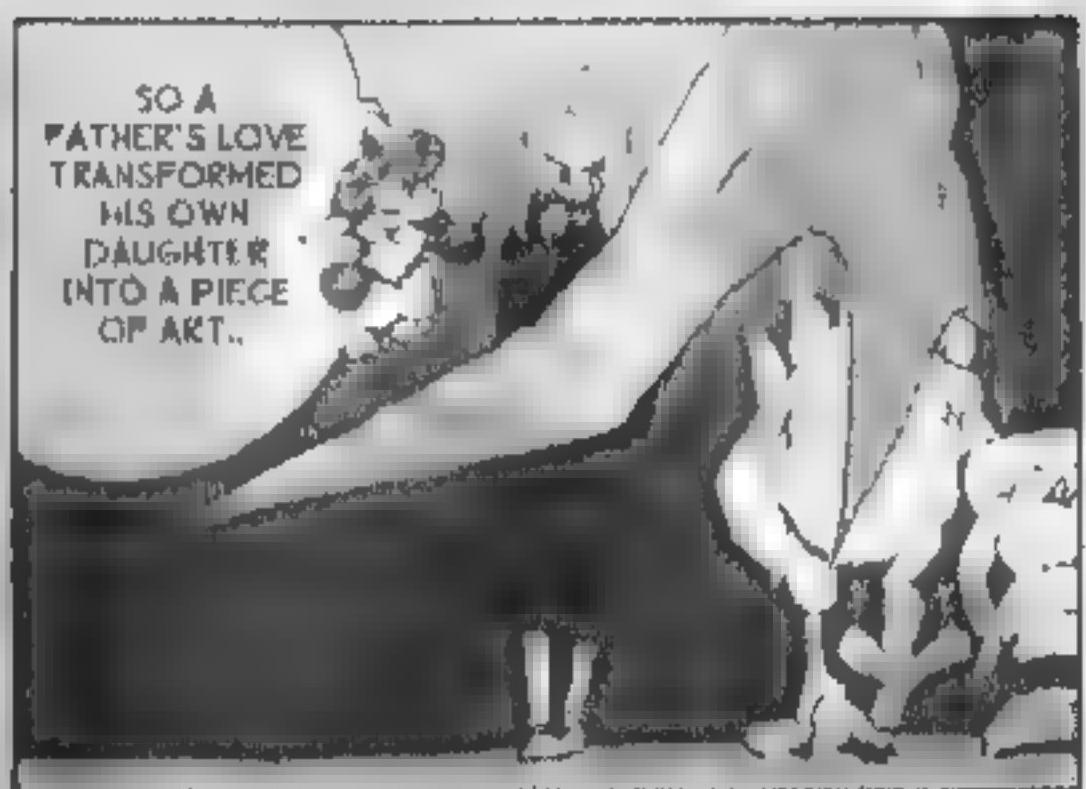
WELL, HE WAS AN  
ARTIST. LEGEND  
HAS IT THAT  
EVERYTHING HE  
TOUCHED TURNED  
INTO A CANVAS.



W WAIT  
JUST A  
MINUTE!  
THIS  
PLACE.

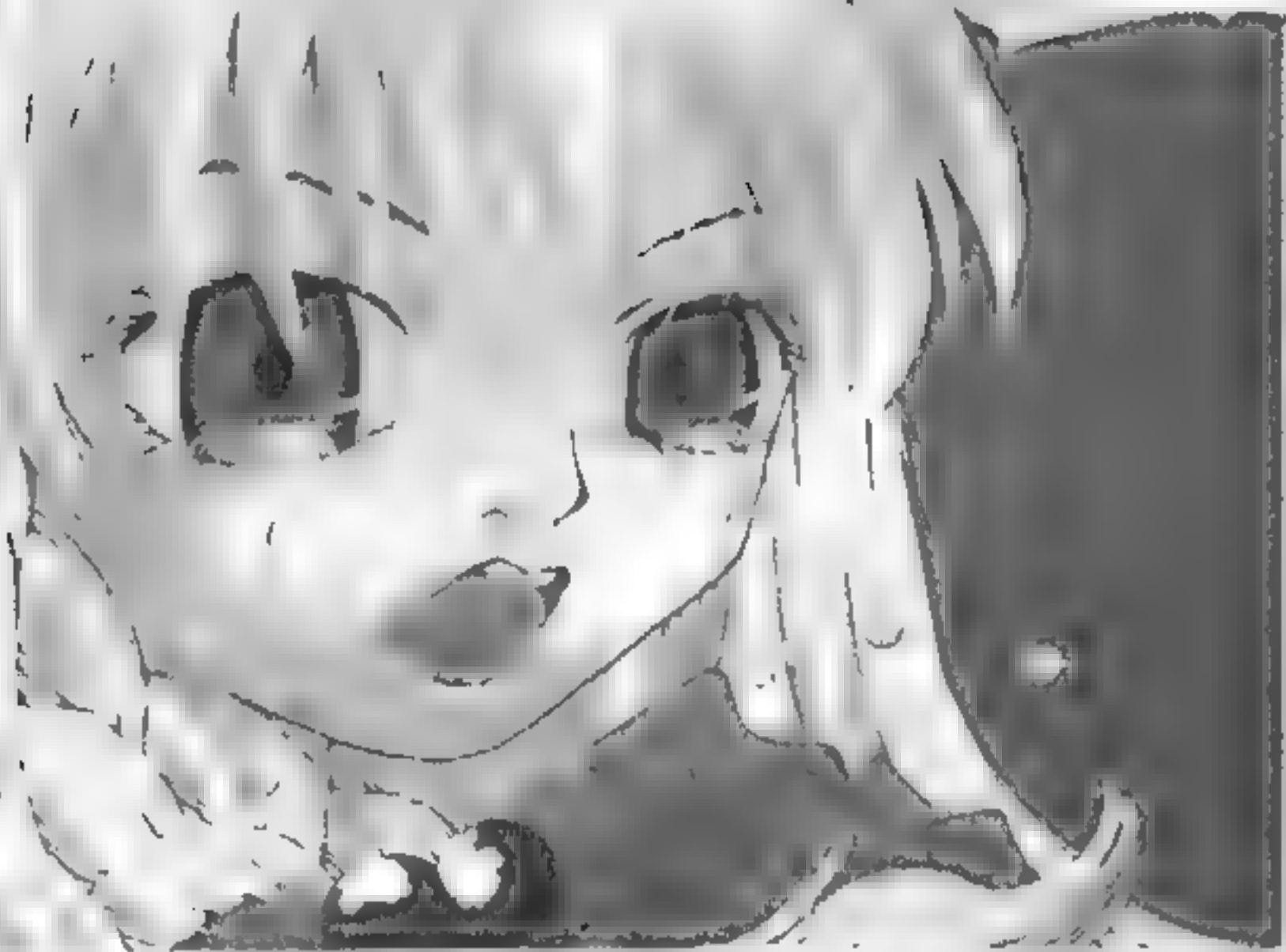




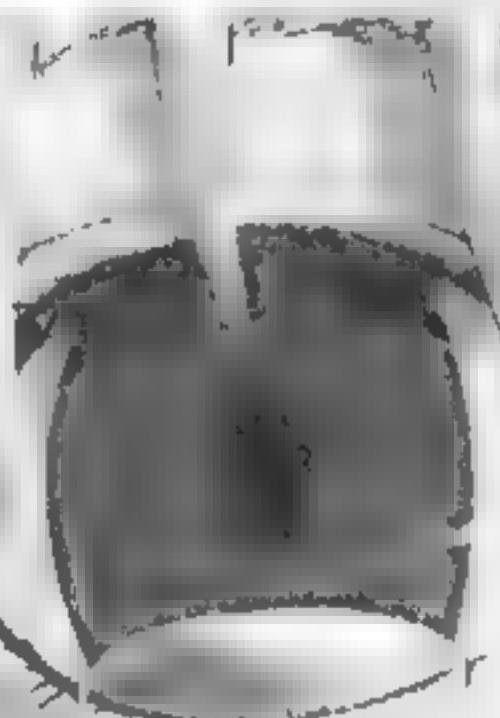




**MY  
FATHER  
DESERTED  
ME!!!**

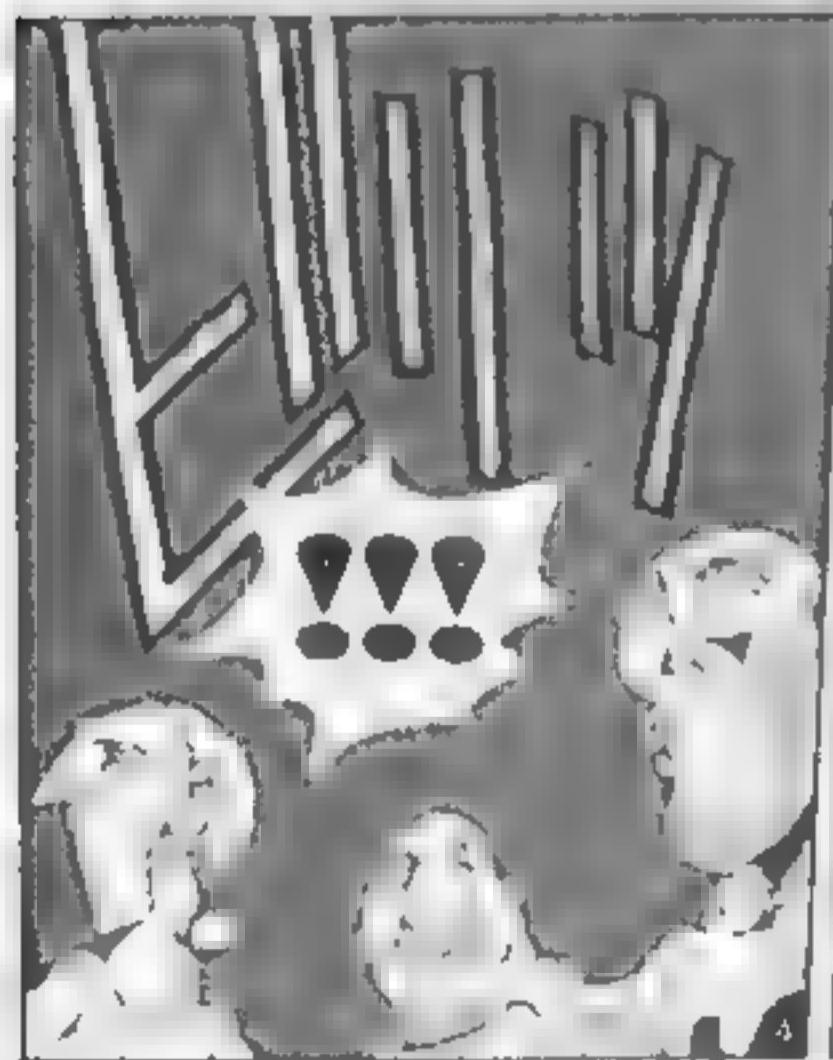


**HE DESERTED  
MY MOTHER  
AND ME...WHEN  
I WAS VERY  
YOUNG...FOR  
THE SAKE OF  
HIS ART!!**

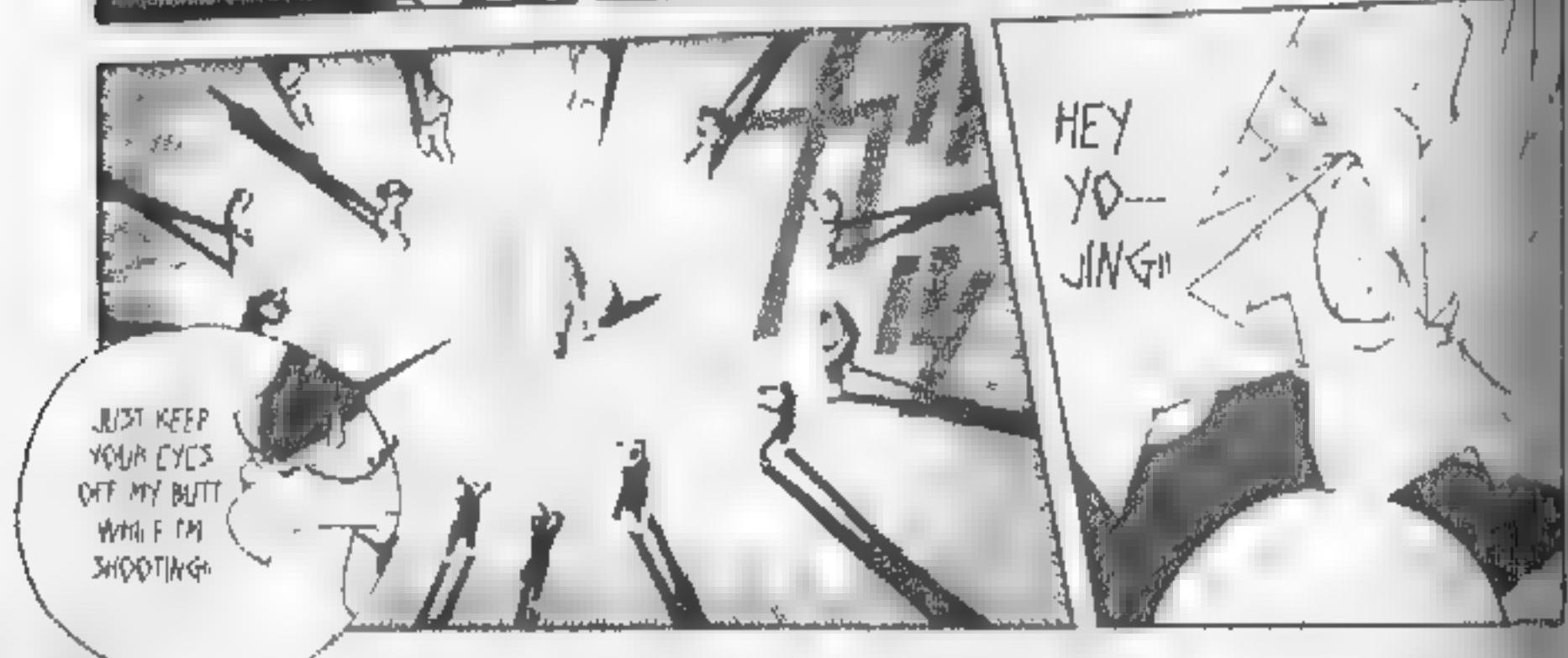
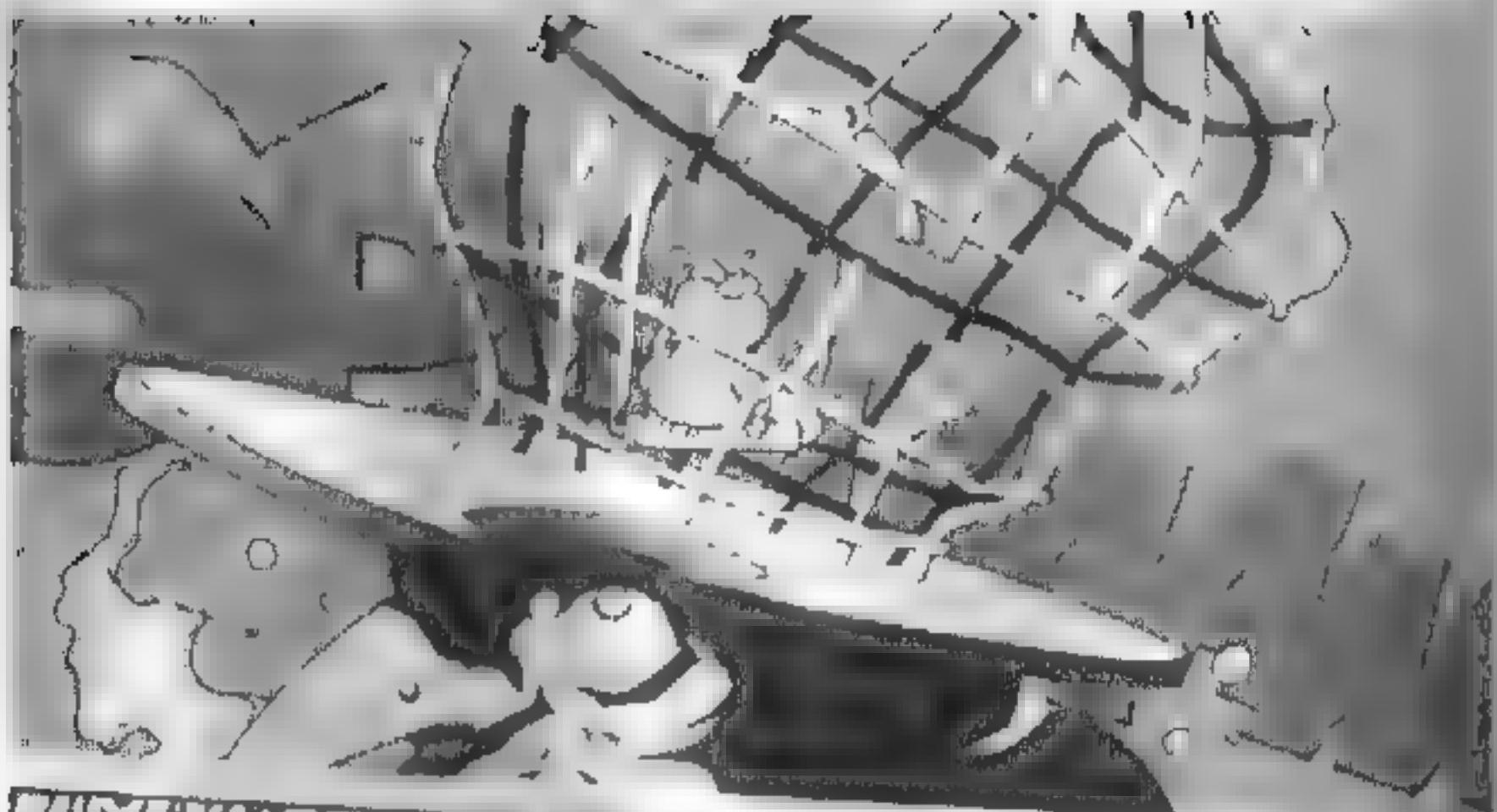






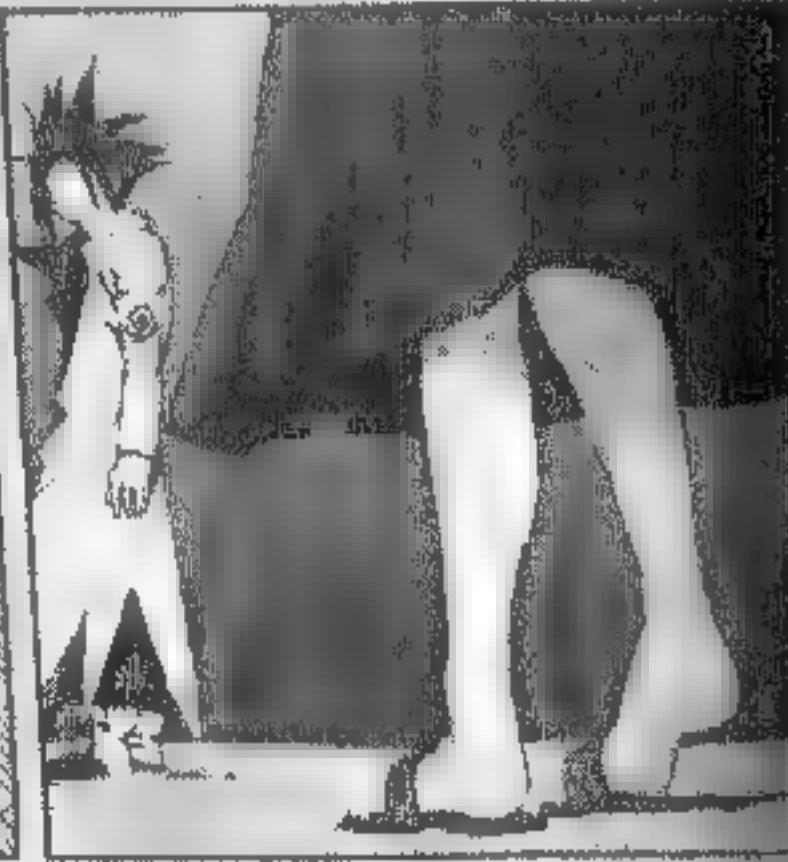
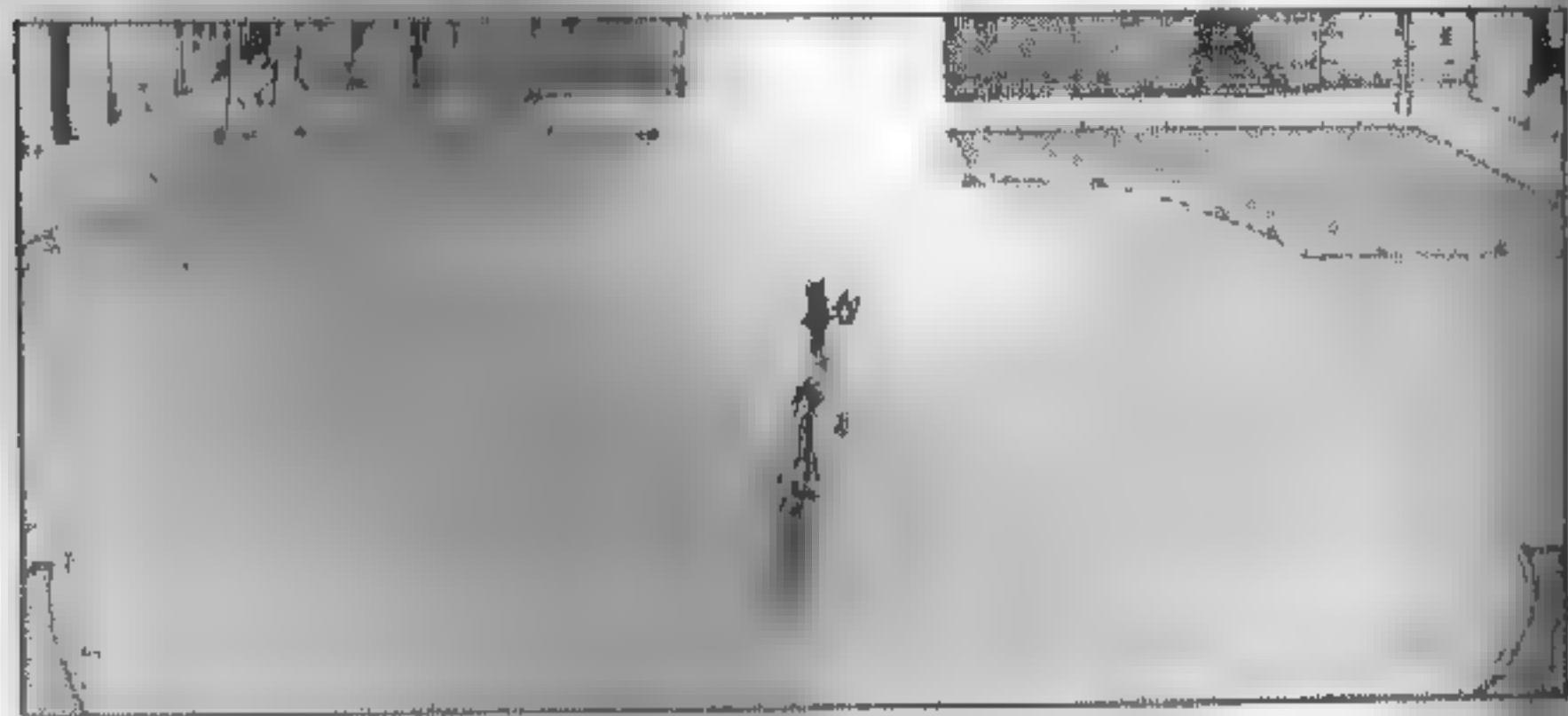






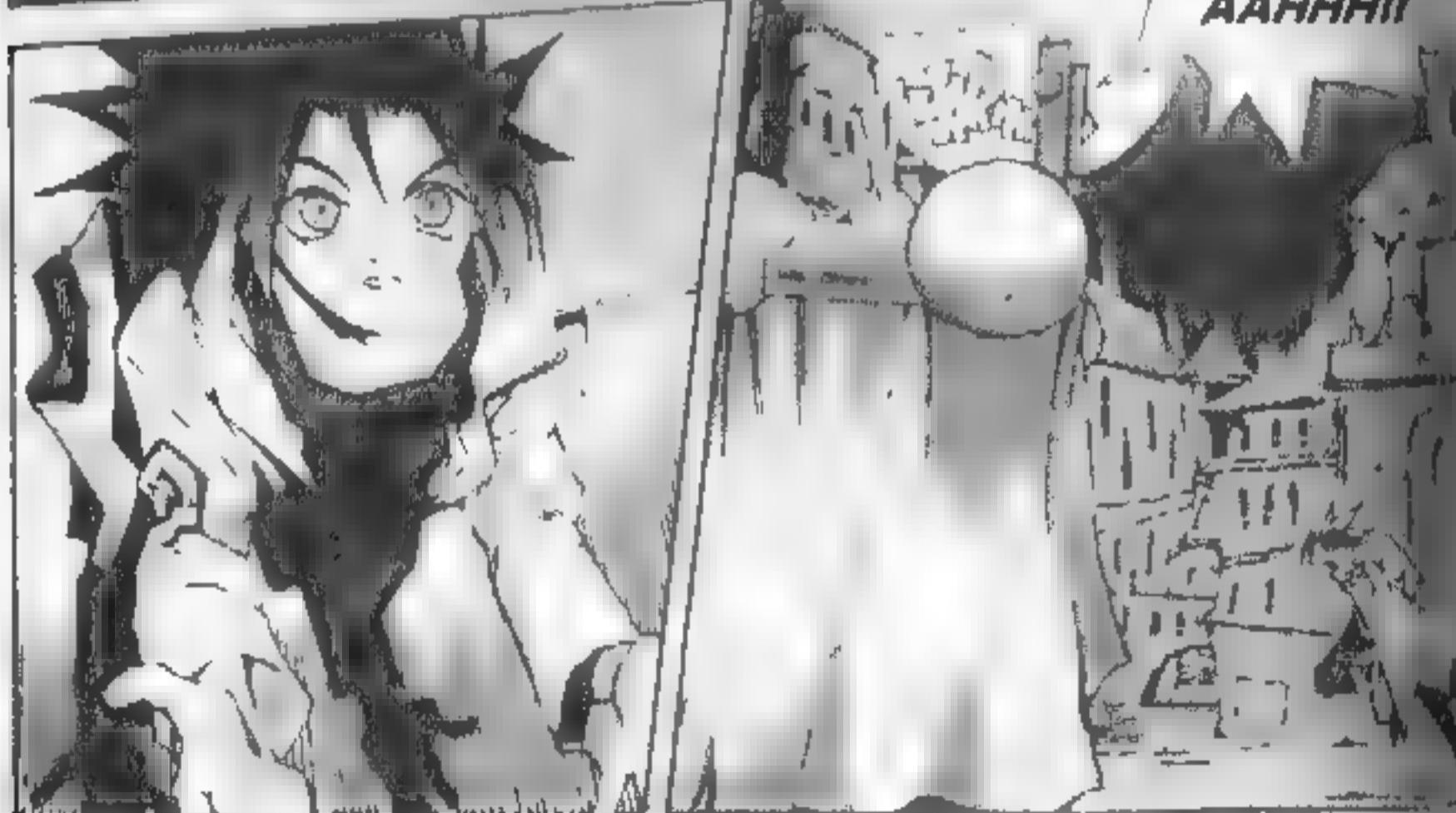
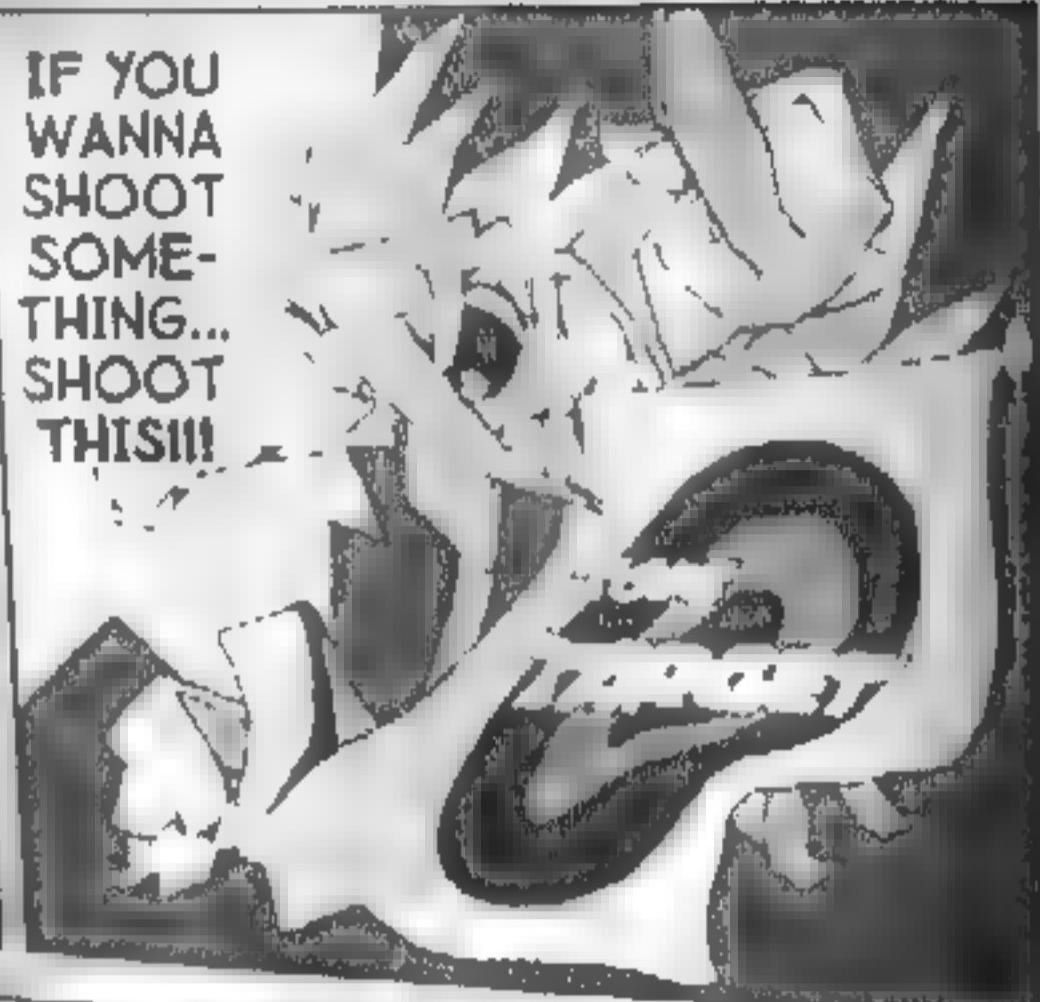
**KIIIIR  
ROYALE!!!**

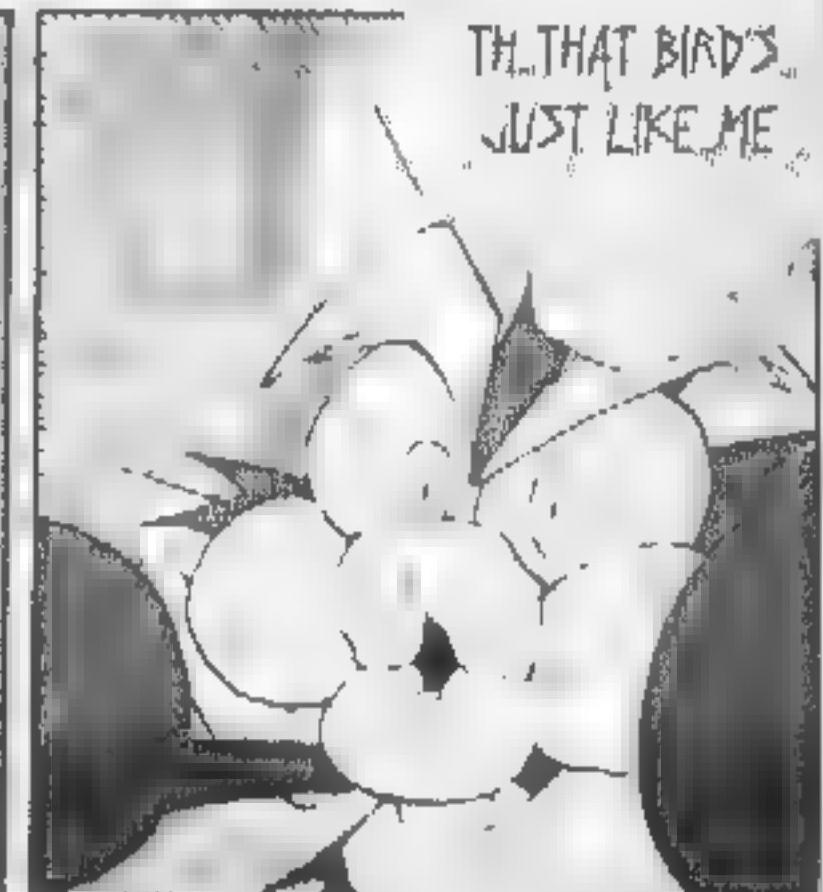


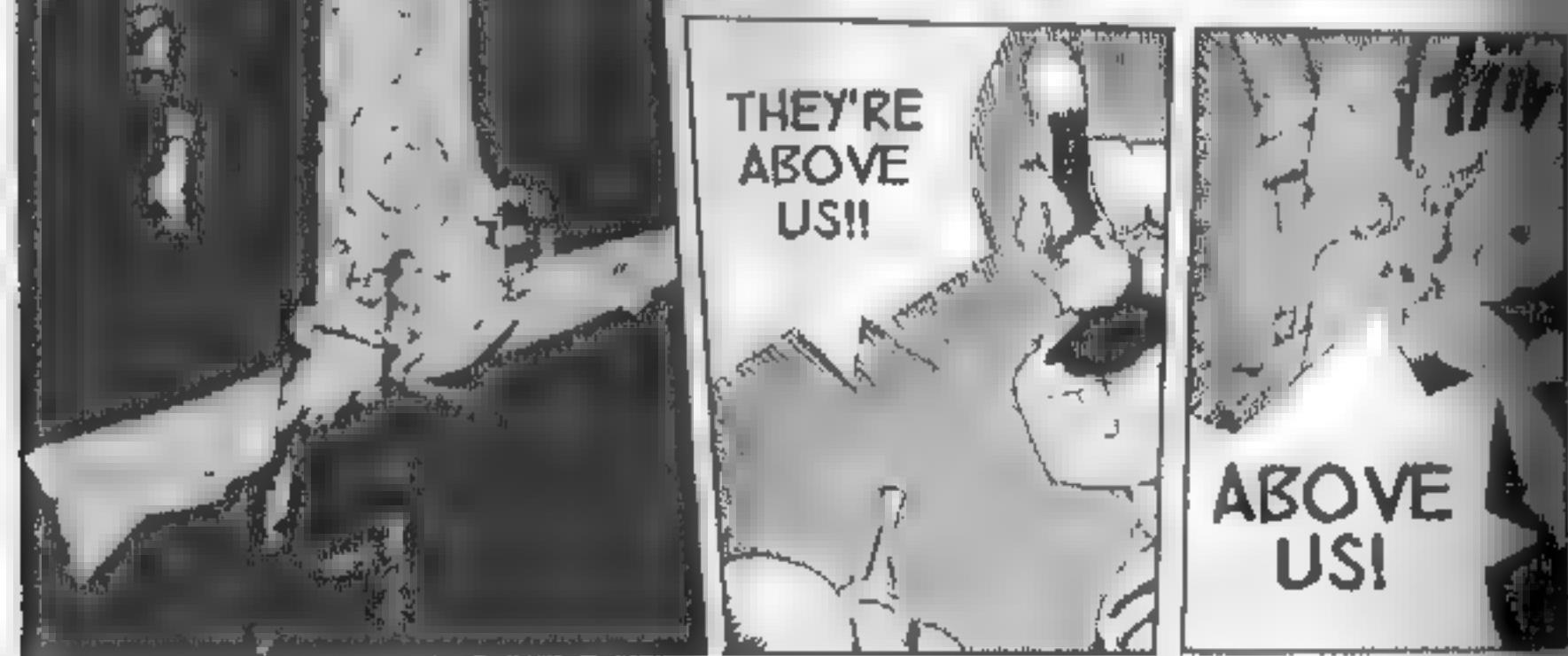
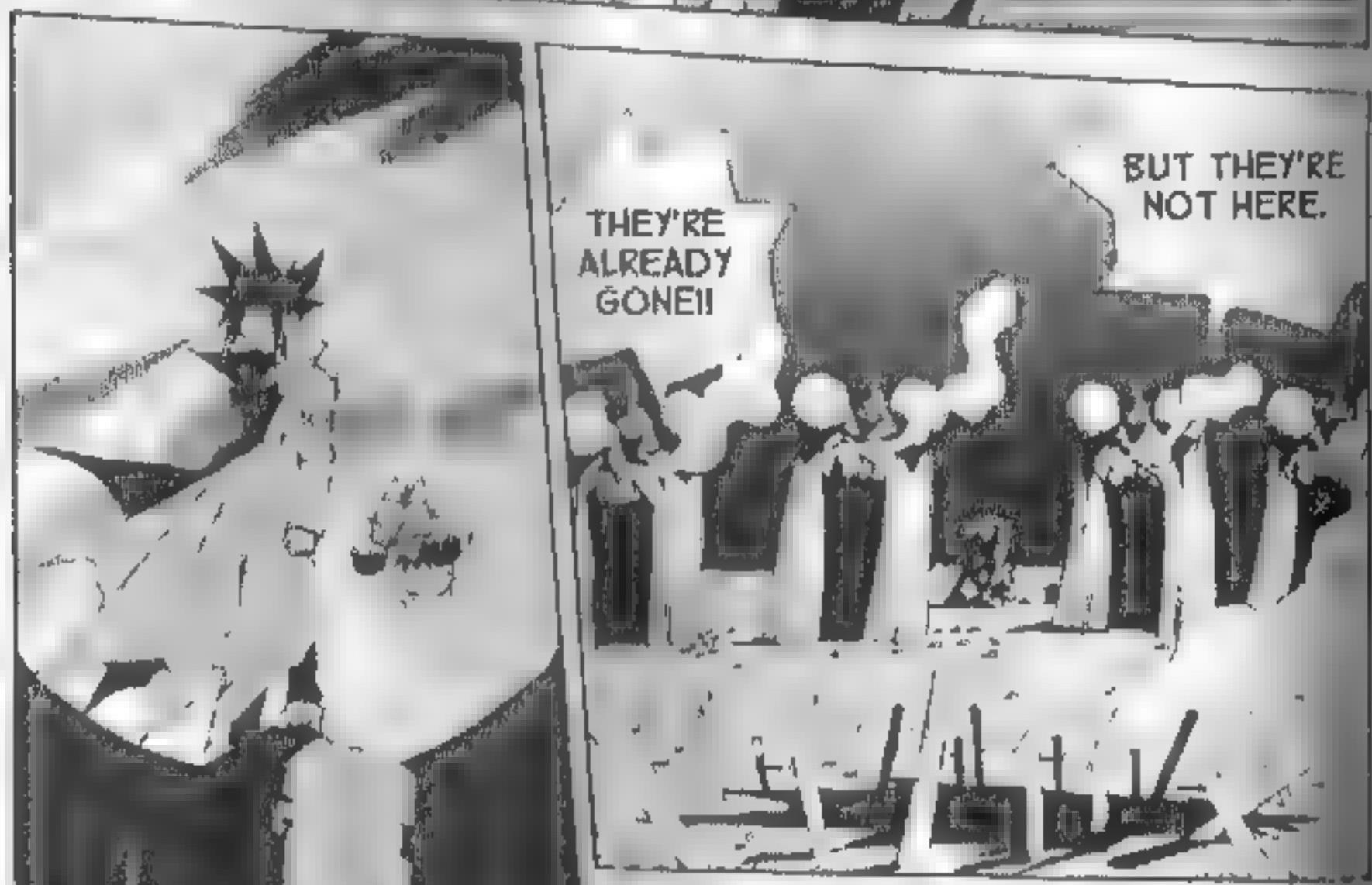






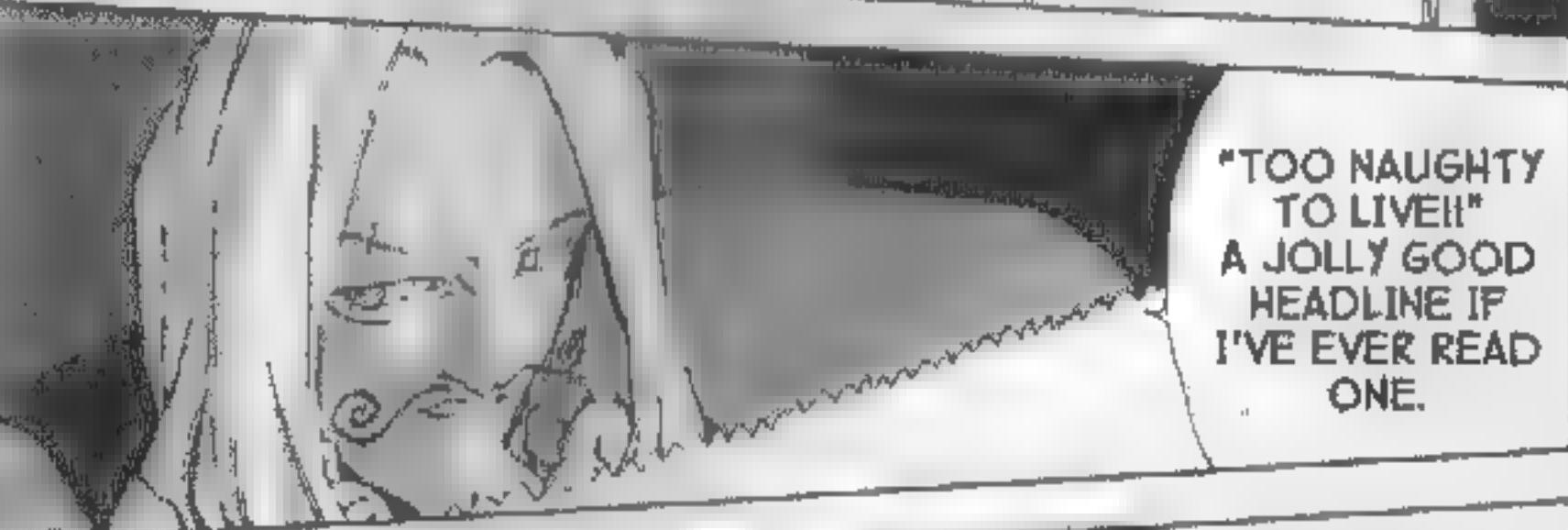






HA HA  
HA HA  
HA HA!

REPUTATION  
TOO NAUGHTY  
TO LIVE

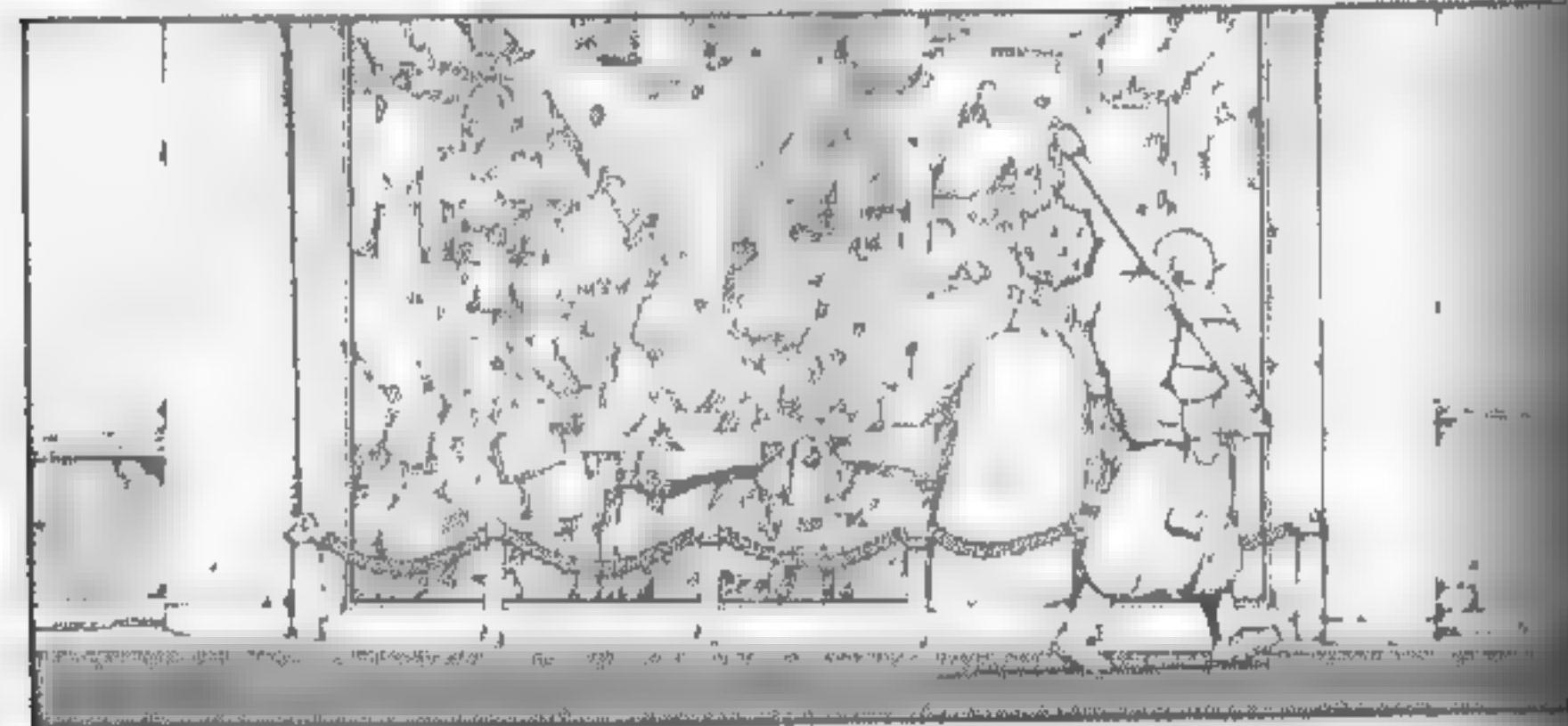
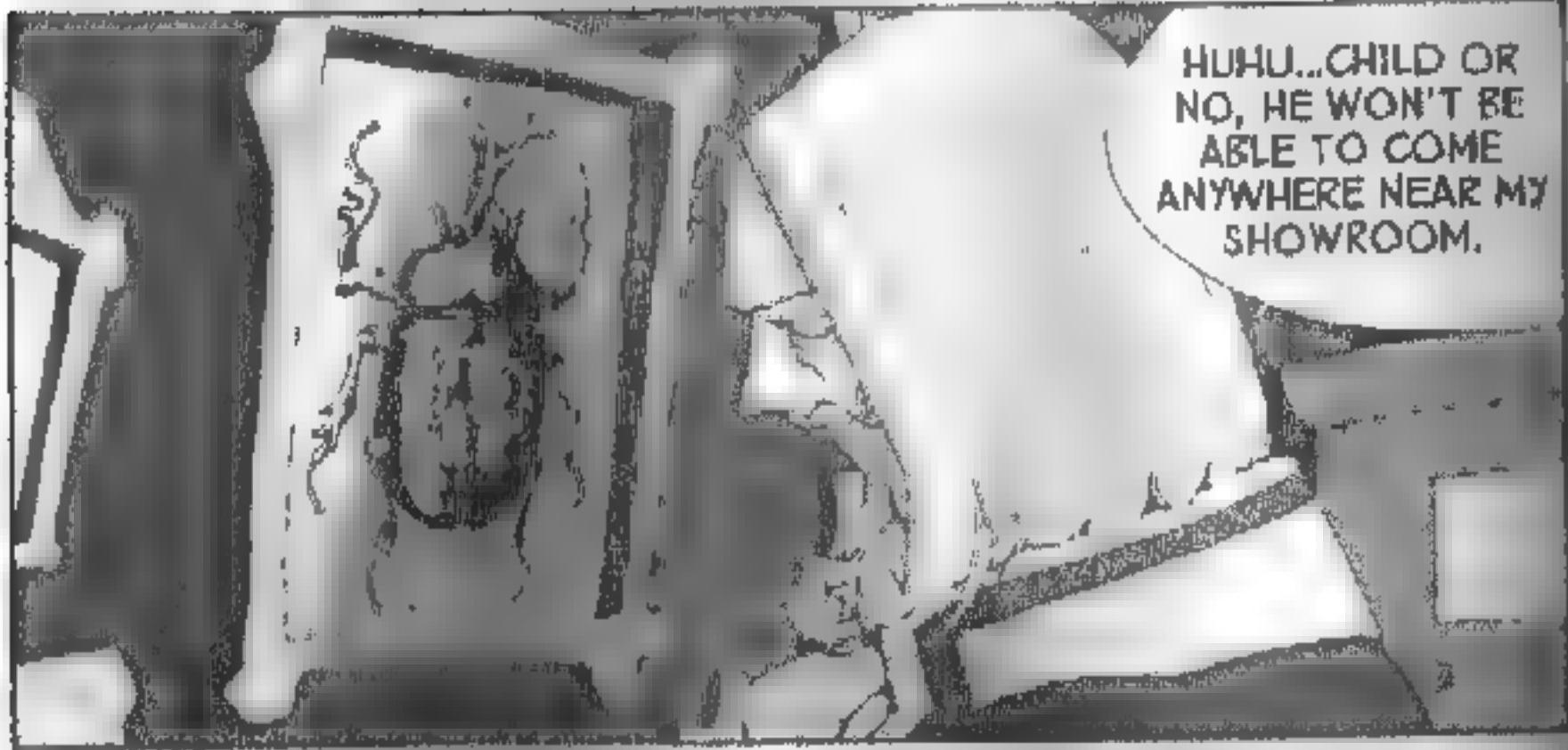


"TOO NAUGHTY  
TO LIVE!!"  
A JOLLY GOOD  
HEADLINE IF  
I'VE EVER READ  
ONE.

AS WELL AS  
ANY WORKING  
AGAINST  
A BADLY-  
BEHAVED  
CHILD.



MY KING CRIMSON  
EMPLOYEES DO  
HANDLE THINGS  
MOST EFFICIENTLY,  
WOULDN'T YOU  
SAY?





**王道行**

KING OF BANDOS

**WANG**

VOLUME 7 OF 7

STORY AND ART BY  
YUICHI KUMAKURA

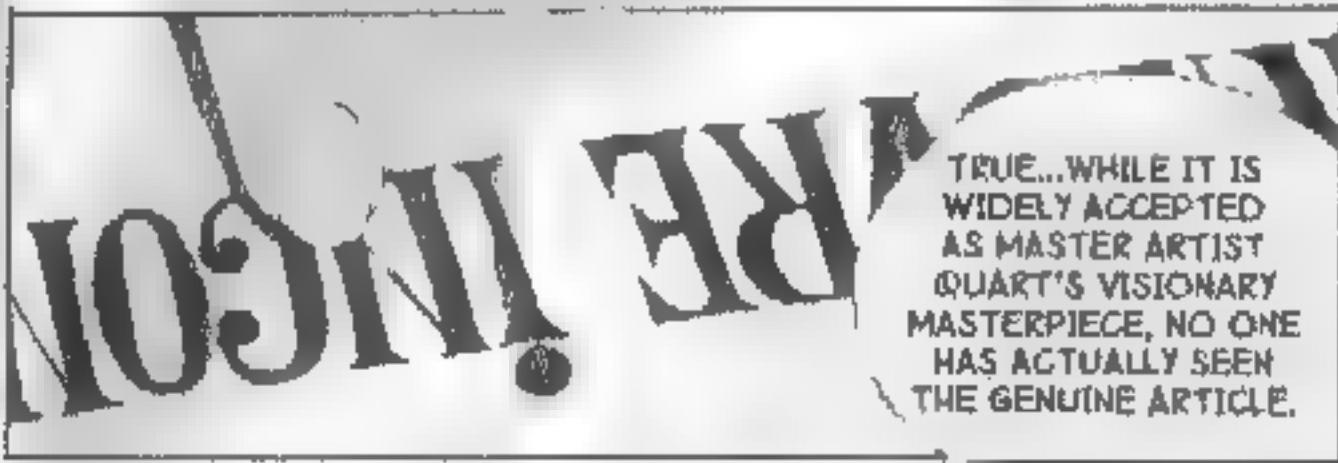


Los Angeles • Tokyo • London • Hamburg

# 33RD SHOT - CRIMSON LAKE



LE CHEF-  
D'OEUVRE  
INCONNU!!

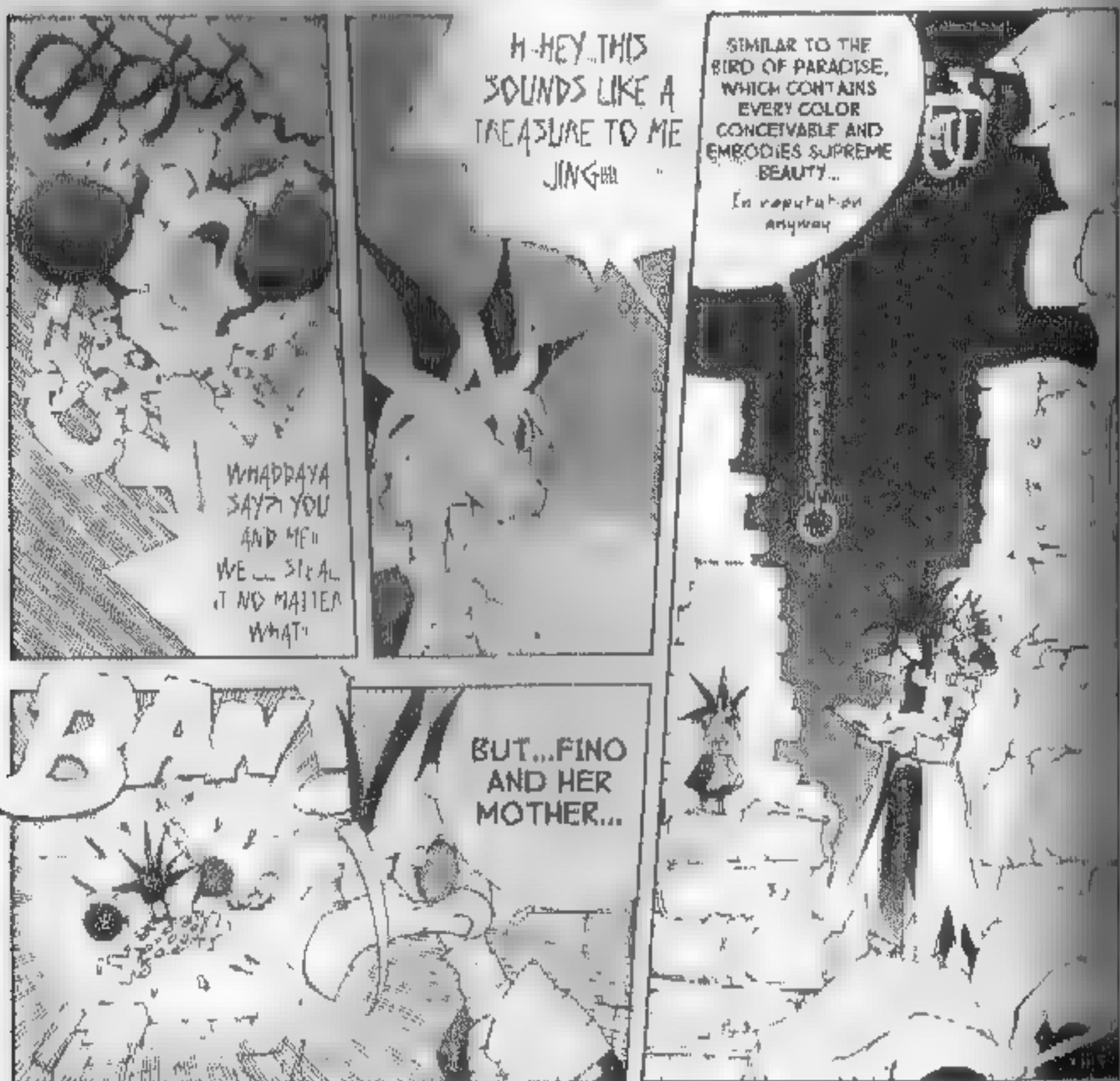


IN THE  
WORLD...

THE WORK IS  
SAID TO LIE  
UNFINISHED IN  
MASTER ARTIST  
QUART'S VILLA  
THIS COUNTRY...



...THIS PIECE IS  
SUPPOSED TO  
CONTAIN ALL THE  
COLORS IN THE  
WORLD, RIGHT?!!



...WERE  
RENTED  
FOR THAT  
PIECE OF  
WORK!!

EVEN  
HIS OWN  
FAMILY!!

IN ORDER TO  
COMPLETE LE  
CHEF D'OEUVRE  
INCONNU, MASTER  
ARTIST QUART  
DESERTED  
EVERYTHING ELSE.

WHAT A TERRIBLE  
PERSON...MASTER  
ARTIST QUART IS!

HAN CHON

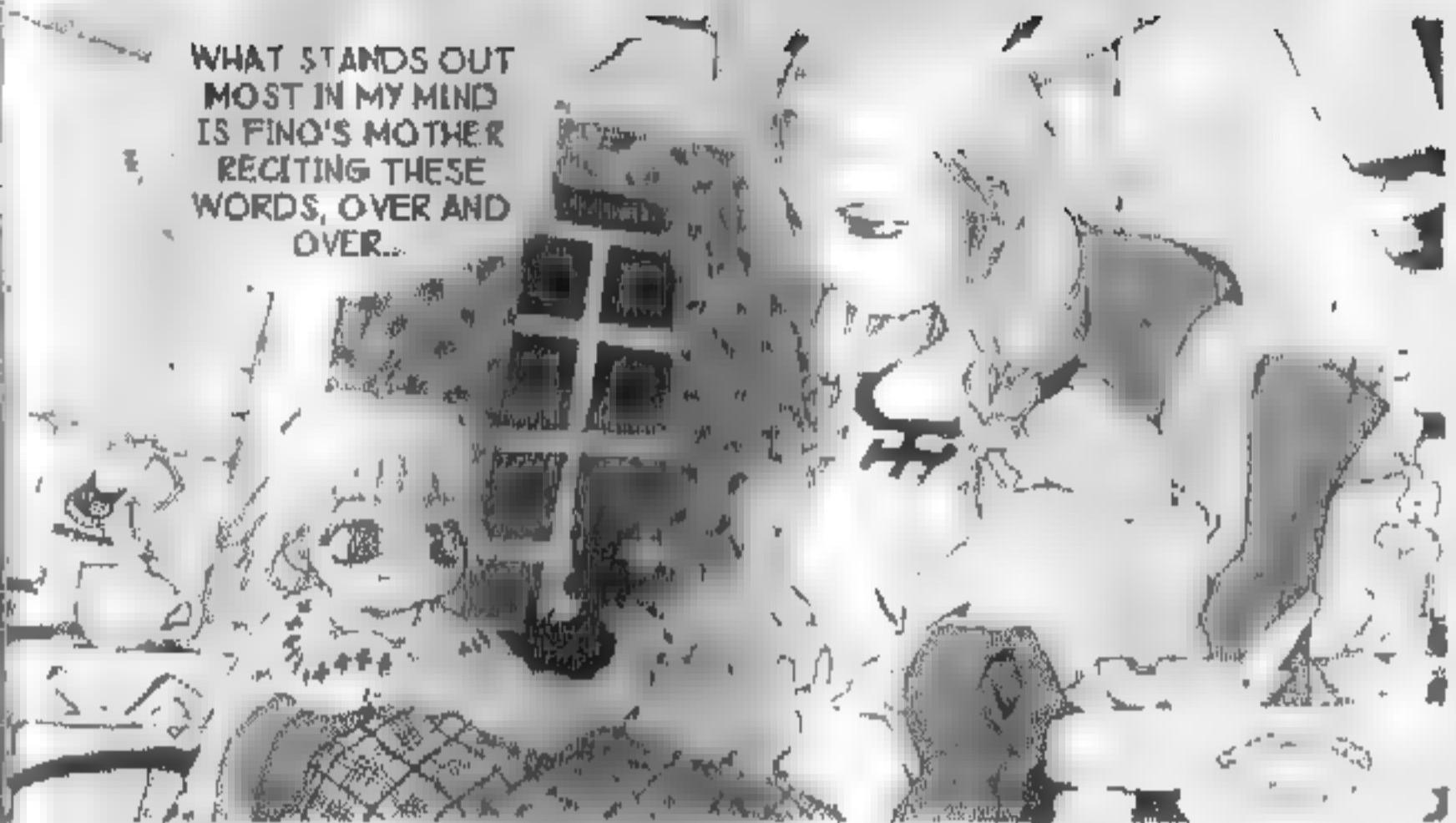
KNOWING THAT NO  
EXISTING PAINT  
COULD REPRODUCE  
ALL THE COLORS OF  
THIS WORLD.

THE MOTHER ARTIST  
SET OUT ON A JOURNEY  
TO FIND THE IDEAL  
PAINTS. HER IRVING ROTH  
HIS WIFE AND HIS YOUNG  
DAUGHTER FINO

IT CAME TO THE  
POINT WHEN THE  
MOTHER AND  
DAUGHTER COULD  
NO LONGER SUPPORT  
THEMSELVES.

ON THAT DAY... THE  
DAY OF POMPÉI'S  
FIRST SNOW, WHEN  
THE CITY OF COLORS  
WAS OBSCURED BY A  
BLANKET OF WHITE...  
THEY FOUND ME.

WHAT STANDS OUT  
MOST IN MY MIND  
IS FINO'S MOTHER  
RECITING THESE  
WORDS, OVER AND  
OVER...



IT WAS  
AS IF SHE  
WERE  
SKINNING  
HER OWN  
HOPE.

GIVING  
HERSELF A  
REASON TO  
GO ON

IF ONLY TO  
GIVE A BODY  
NEW LIFE  
AMID THE  
RAINDROPS  
AND UNDER  
THE MUD,  
GOOD NEWS  
WILL ARRIVE  
ON THE WINGS  
OF THE  
WIND AFTER  
COUNTLESS  
TRIALS OF  
FLAME.

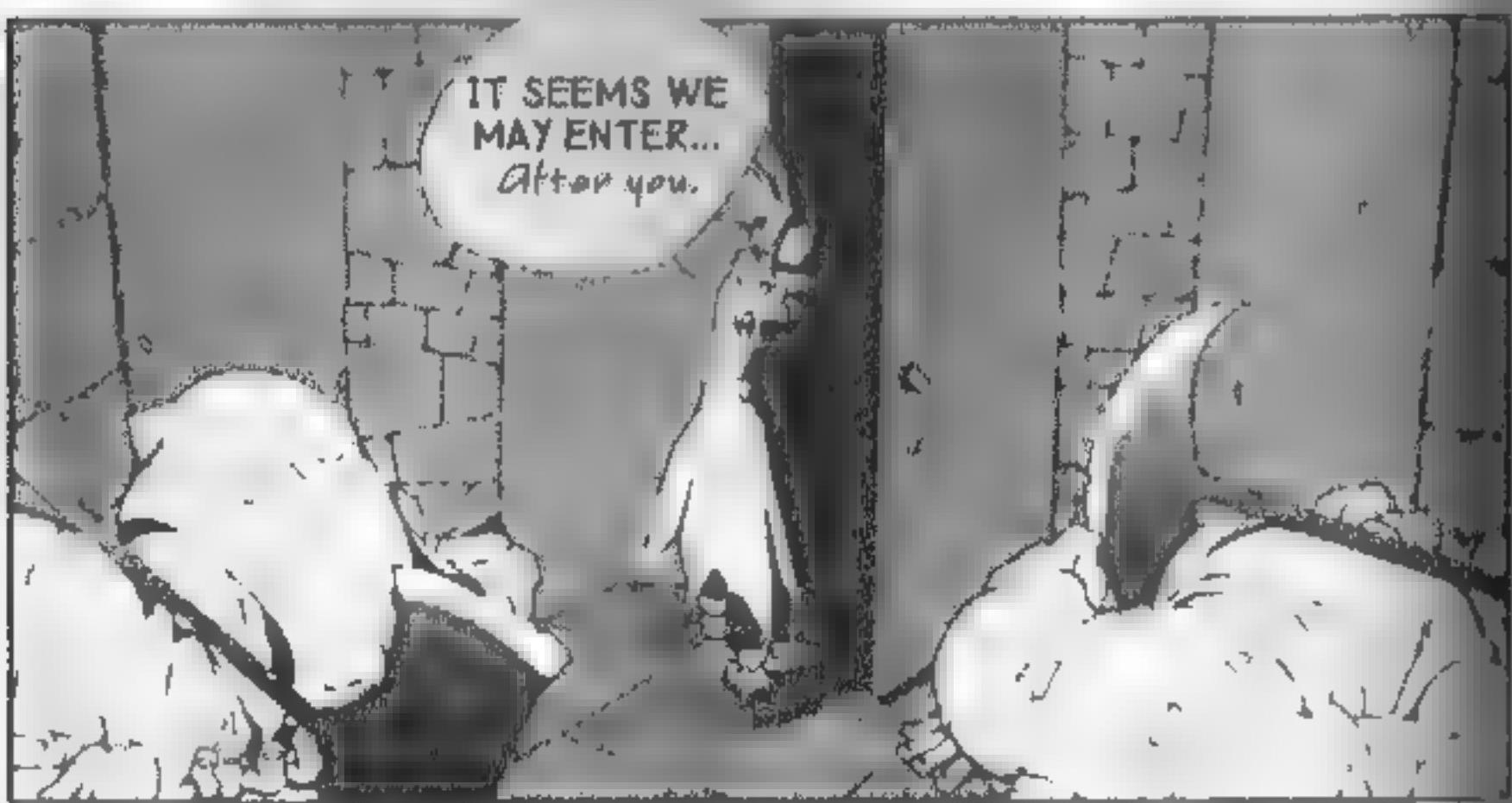


FOO.

YOU GOT  
MISTAKEN FOR  
A MYNAH BIRD  
HUH?



HUH?







SHE'S SAYING  
WE CAN'T JUST  
UP AND STEAL  
EVERYTHING,  
KIRI

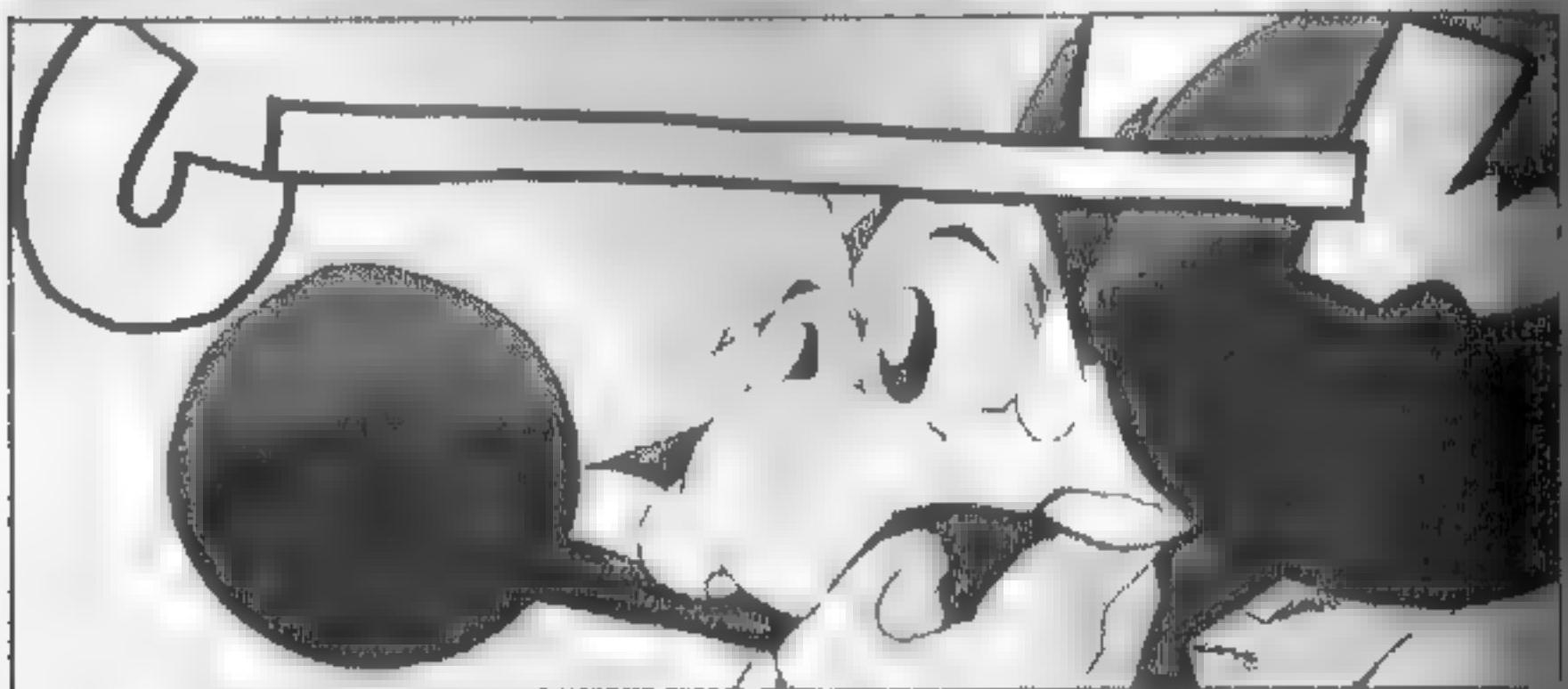
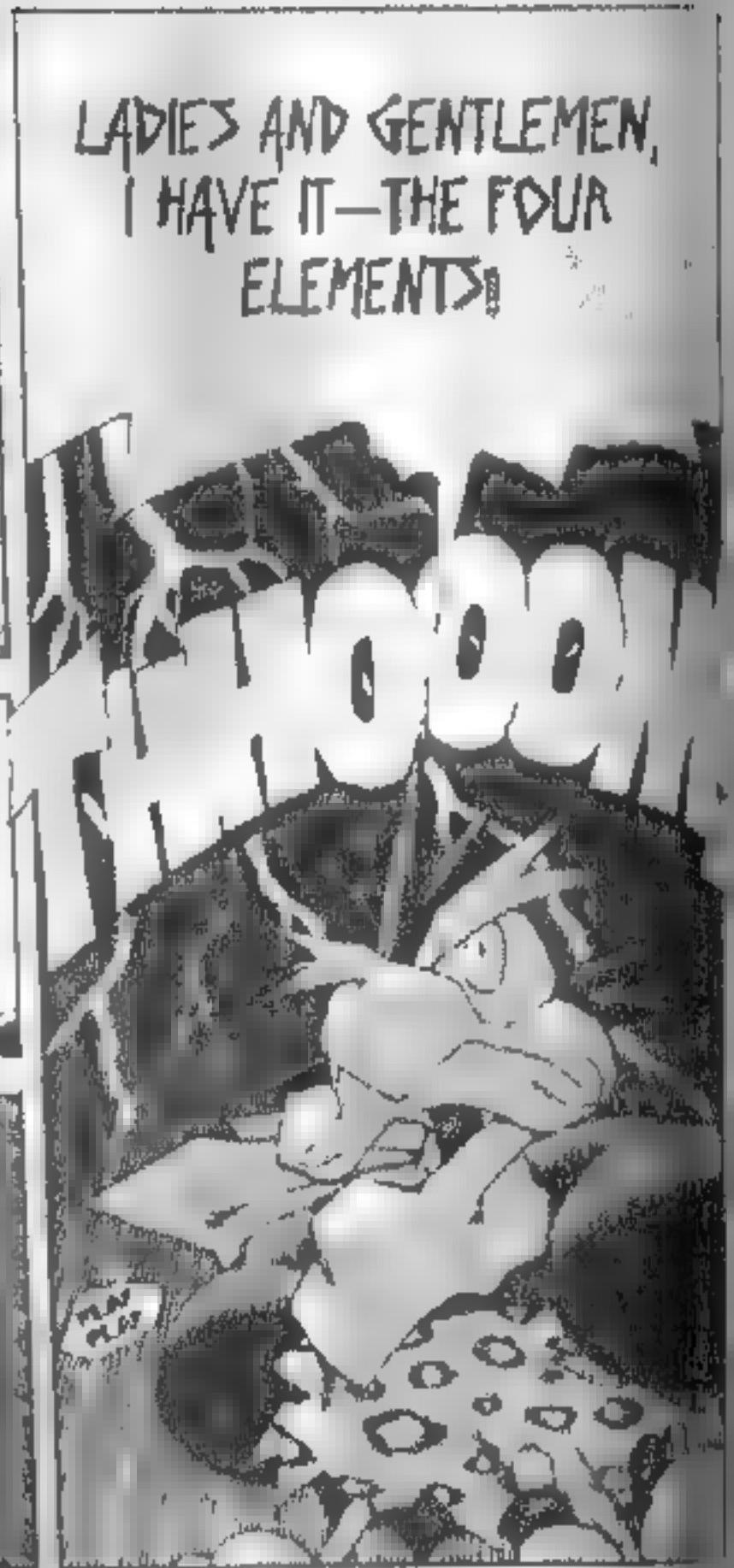
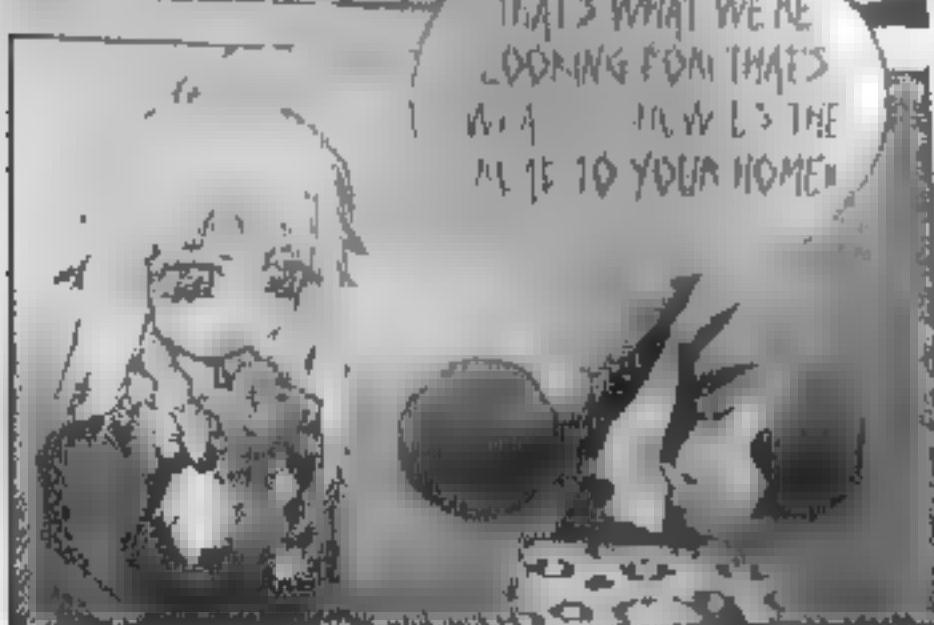
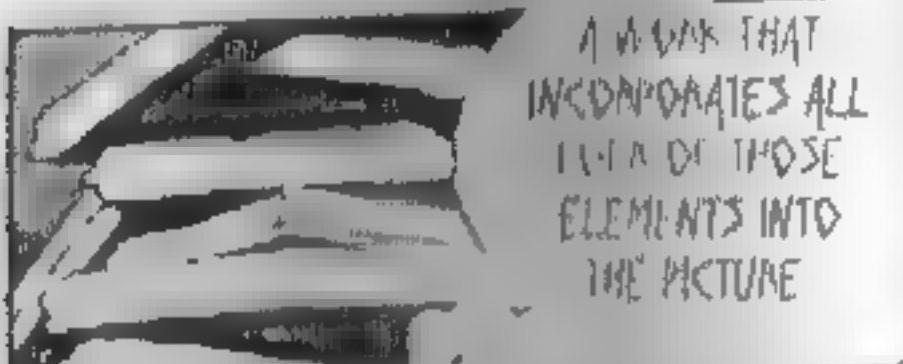
WHAT'RE  
YOU  
DOING?!!

EH?

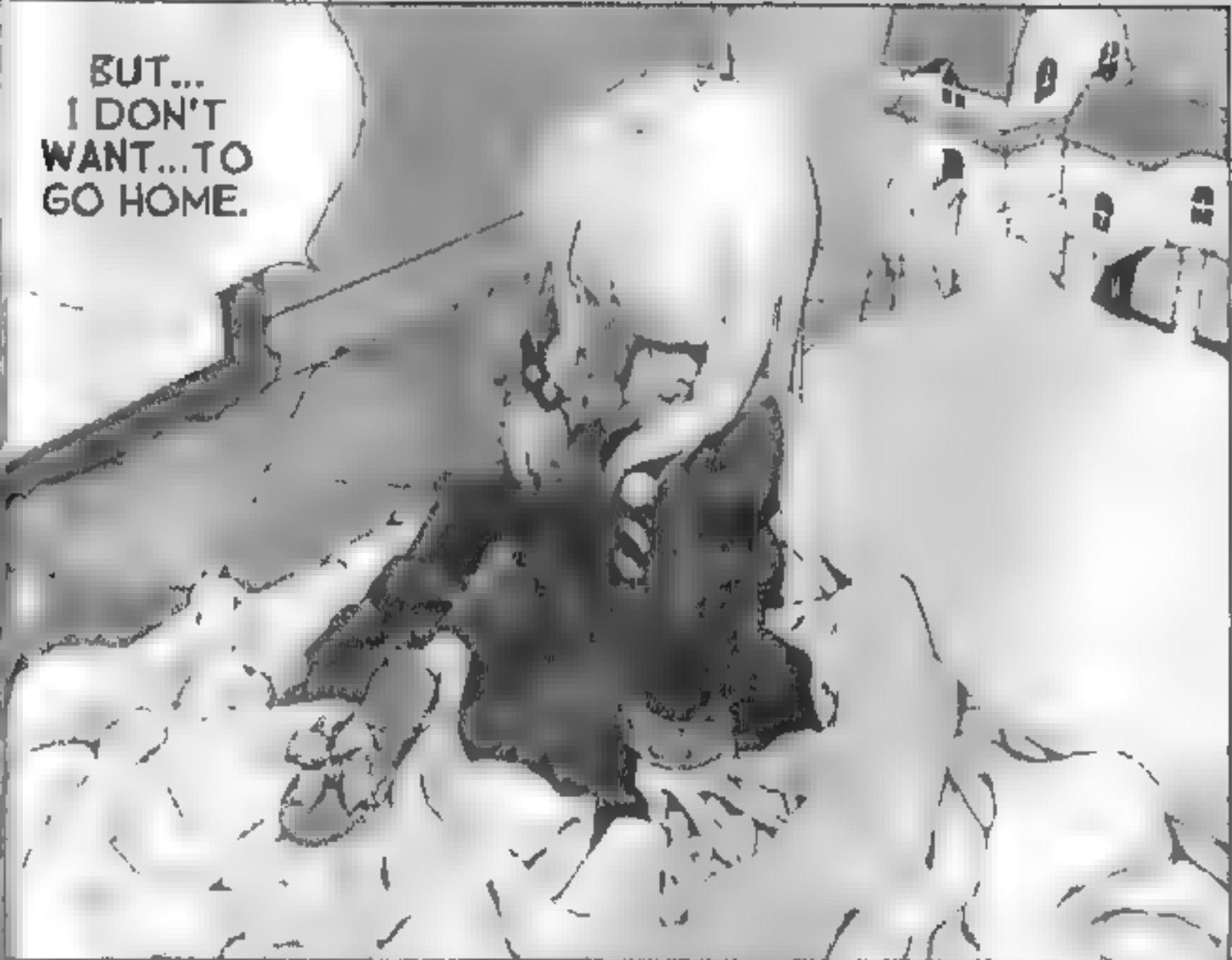
WHAT HE WAS JUST  
SAYING - "UNDER THE  
MUD" AND ALL - I  
THINK IT WAS SOME  
KIND OF CODE!

NO NO NO JING. WE'RE  
JUST GONNA STEAL  
THE ONE! THE ONE THAT  
WILL SHOW ME THE  
WHEREABOUTS OF THE  
TREASURE!

IF I'M RIGHT, IT'LL REVEAL  
THE LOCATION OF THE  
VILLA...THE ONE WHERE  
LE CHEF-D'DELVAE  
INCAUNL IS HIDDE N!!!

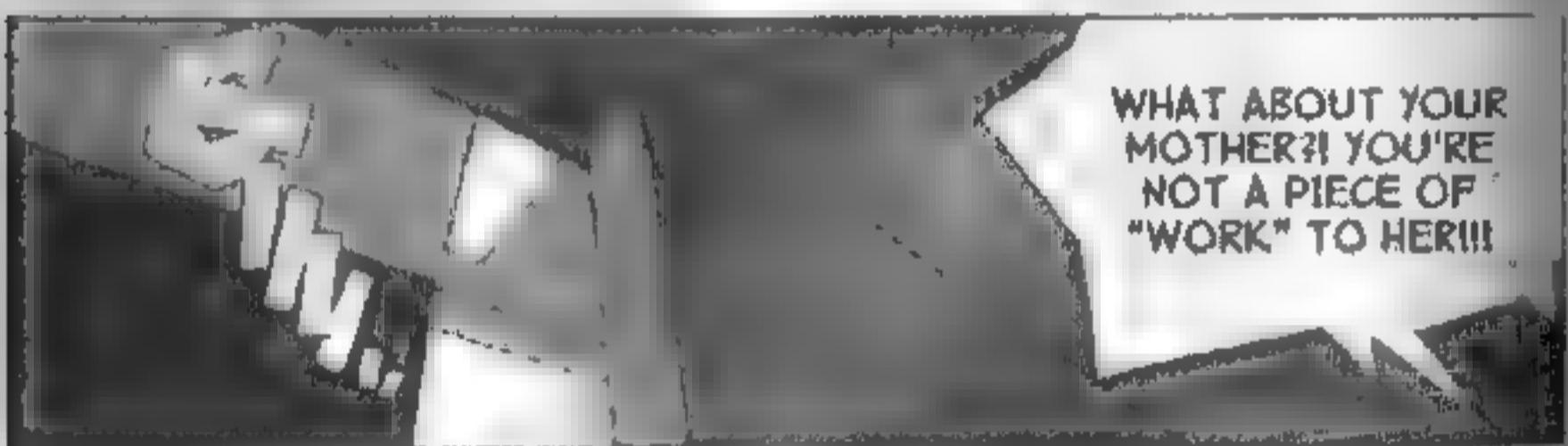
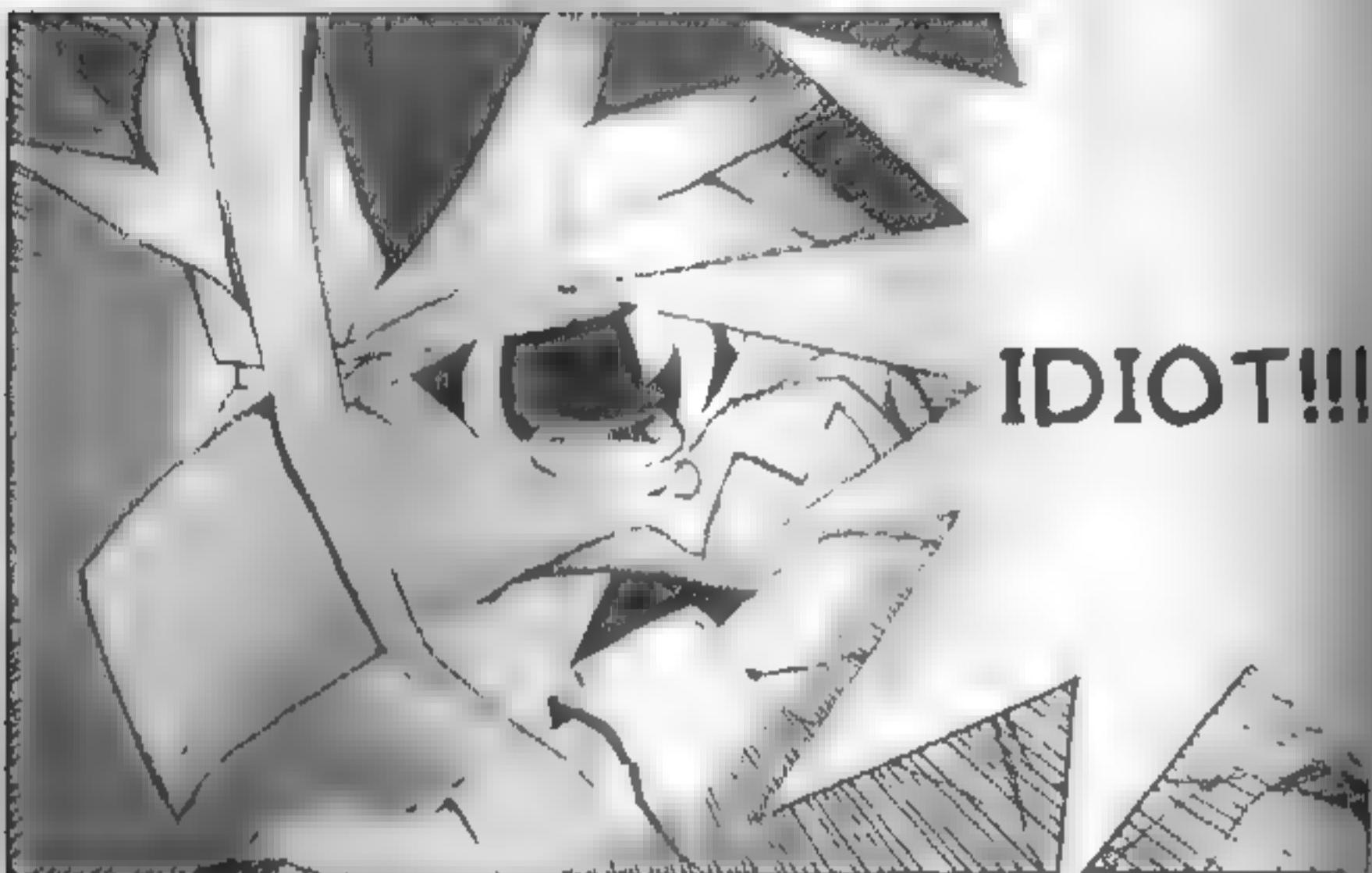


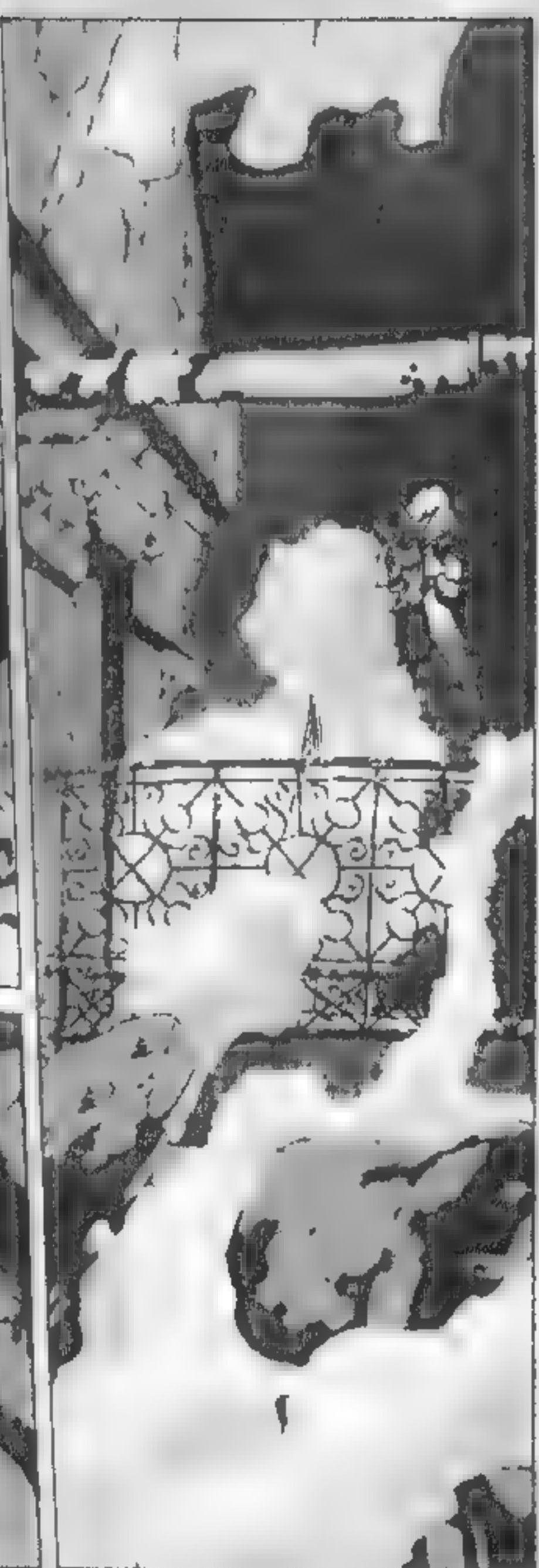
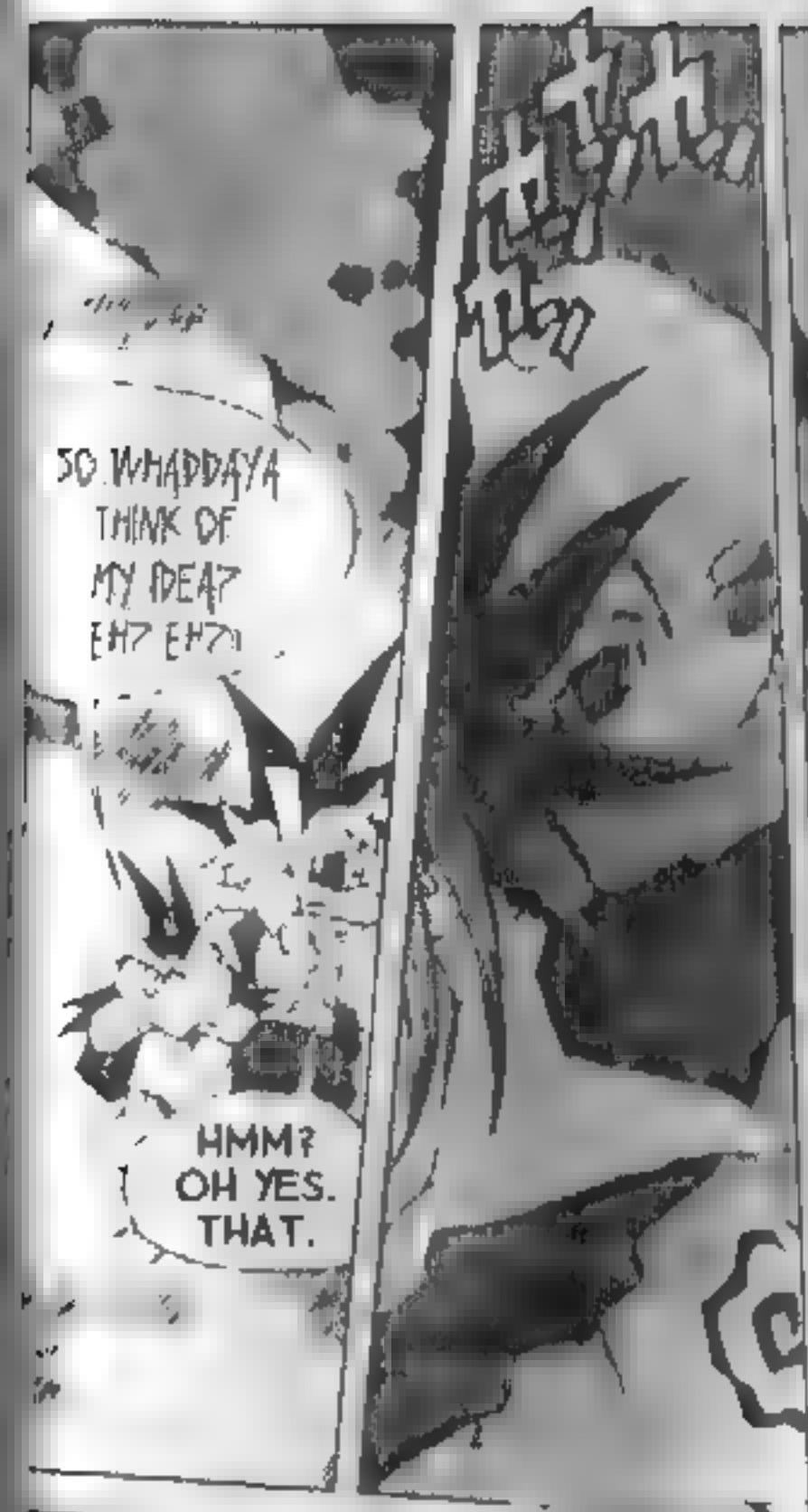
BUT...  
I DON'T  
WANT...TO  
GO HOME.

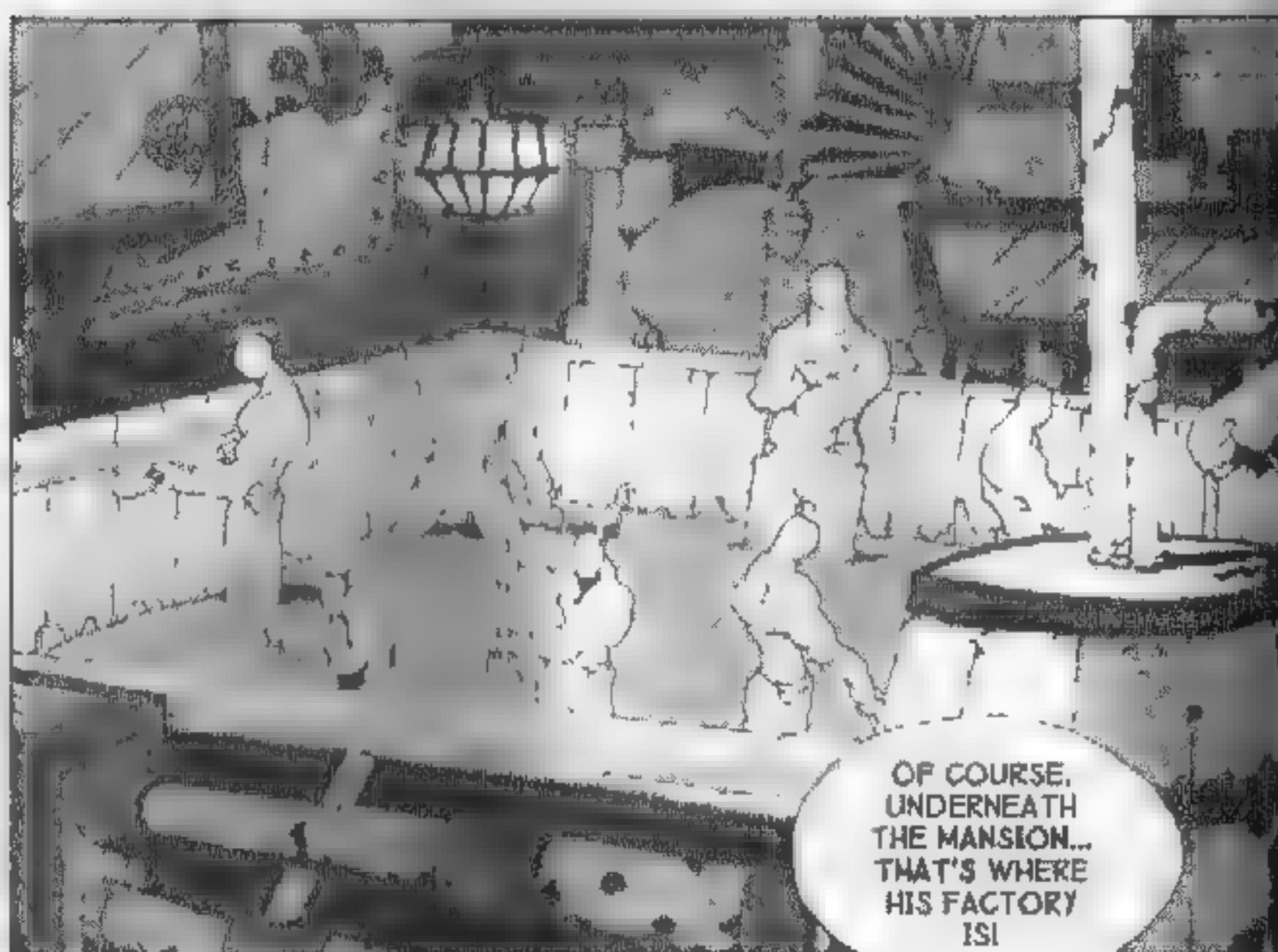


I'VE ALREADY  
DECIDED.  
I'M GOING TO  
DIE HERE...AS ONE  
OF MY FATHER'S  
WORKS.





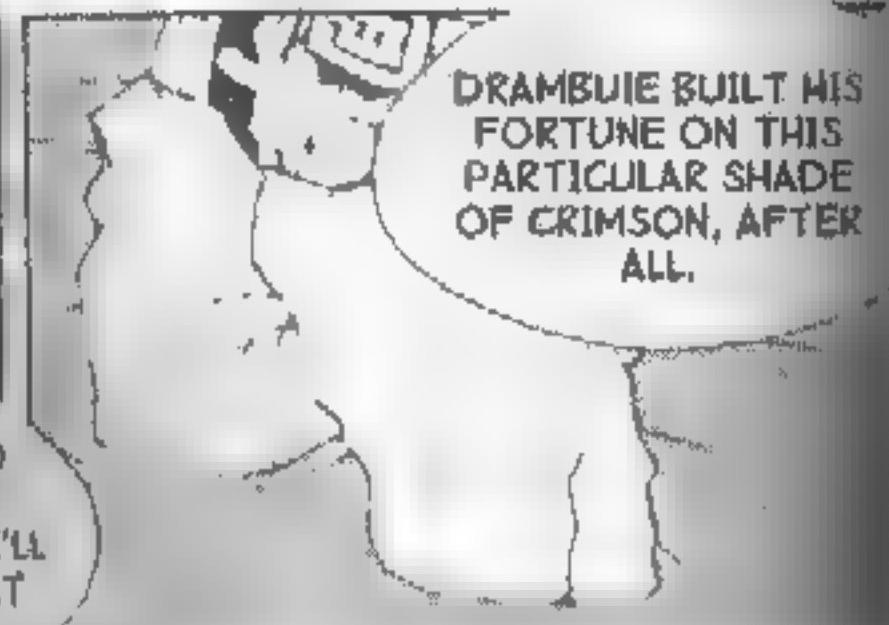




OF COURSE,  
UNDERNEATH  
THE MANSION...  
THAT'S WHERE  
HIS FACTORY  
IS!



SO ITS  
PRODUCTION METHOD  
HAD TO BE KEPT TOP  
SECRET! AND I THINK WE'LL  
FIND THE CORE OF THAT  
SECRET JUST UP AHEAD...



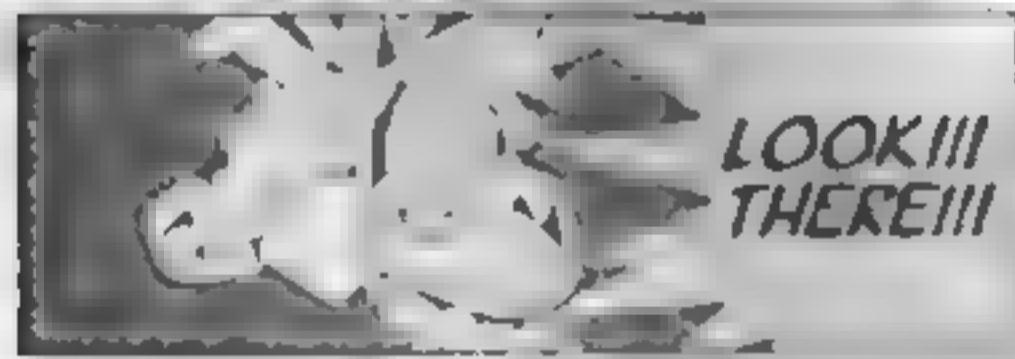
DRAMBLIE BUILT HIS  
FORTUNE ON THIS  
PARTICULAR SHADE  
OF CRIMSON, AFTER  
ALL.

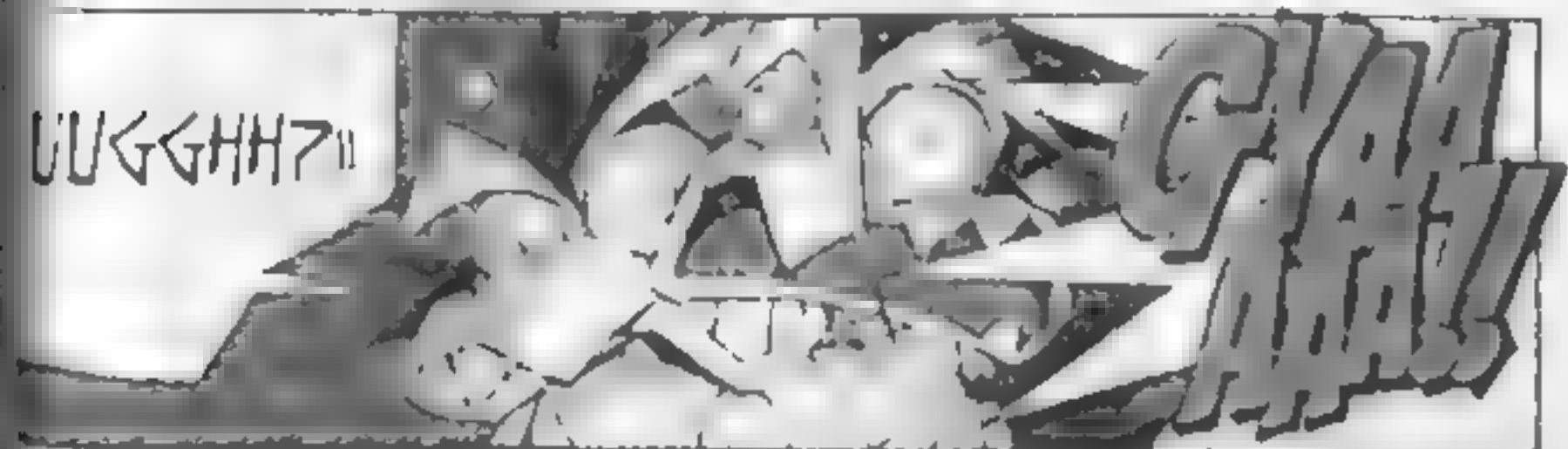
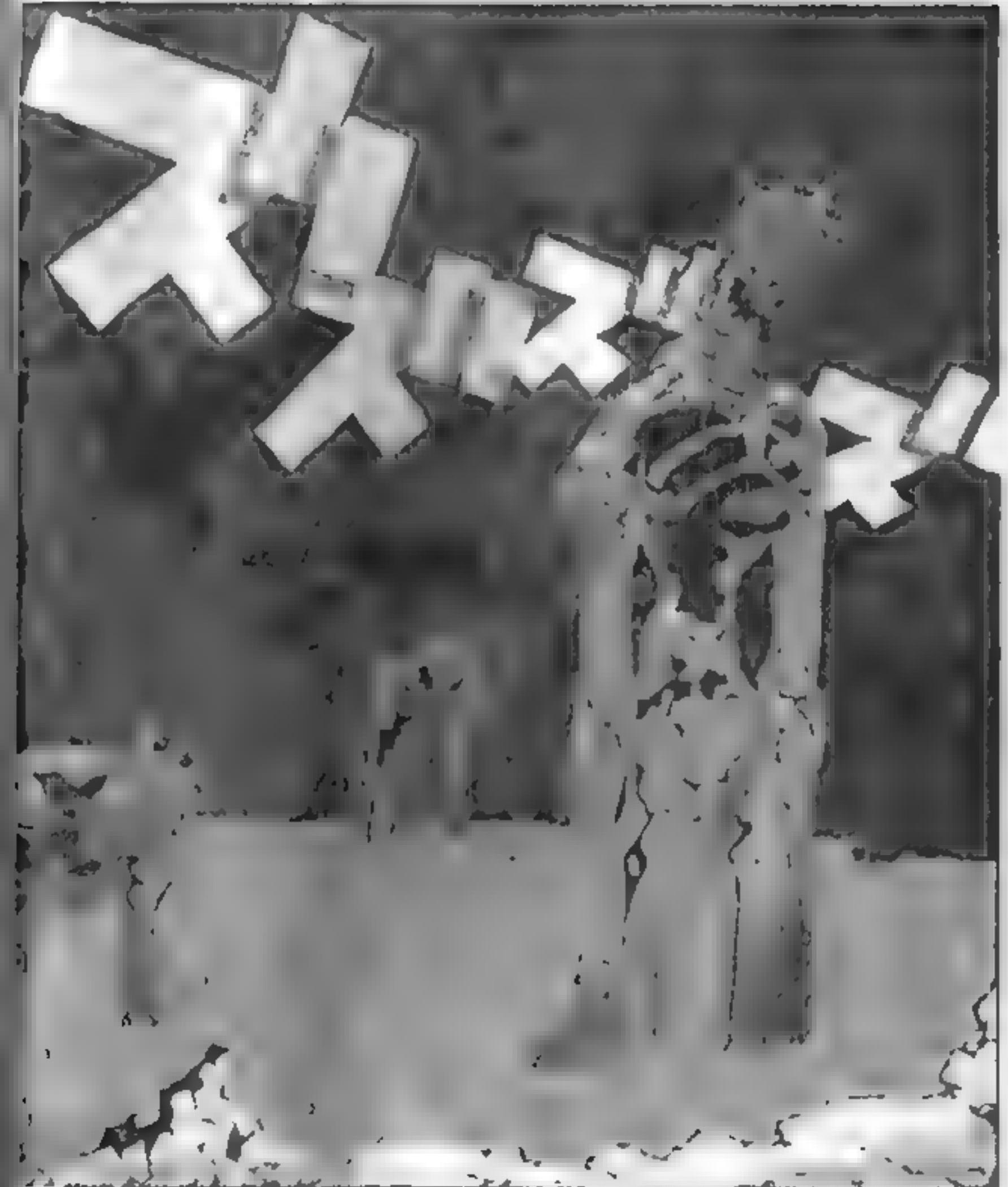


IN AN UNDERGROUND  
WELL, SO TO SPEAK.

**GAA!**

THE CRIMSON  
LAKE!!!







ACCORDING  
TO LEGEND  
POMPIER'S  
EXQUISITE DEEP  
RED SHADE IS  
MADE FROM NONE  
OTHER THAN THE  
EXTRACTS OF THE  
DECEASED.

THAT'S RIGHT  
HUNDREDS OF  
CORPSES, BOTH  
HUMAN AND BEAST,  
HAVE BEEN THROWN  
TO THE BOTTOM OF  
THIS LAKE.



THEY COME  
BACK TO LIFE  
THEIR EYES BURN  
THE LIVING FAITH  
WEARING A SHIRT  
OF OWN MAKE  
PRIMED WITH  
TAINTED WATER



BUT THE WRATH  
OF THE DECEASED,  
HAVING LIVED FOR  
A CAUSE NO MORE  
NORBLE THAN FAITH,  
IS FORMIDABLE  
AND IN TIME



KING CRIMSON'S  
ROYAL FLUSH, IF  
YOU WILL!!

WE'RE GETTIN'  
OUTTA HERE!!

SPLIT UP





HEH?

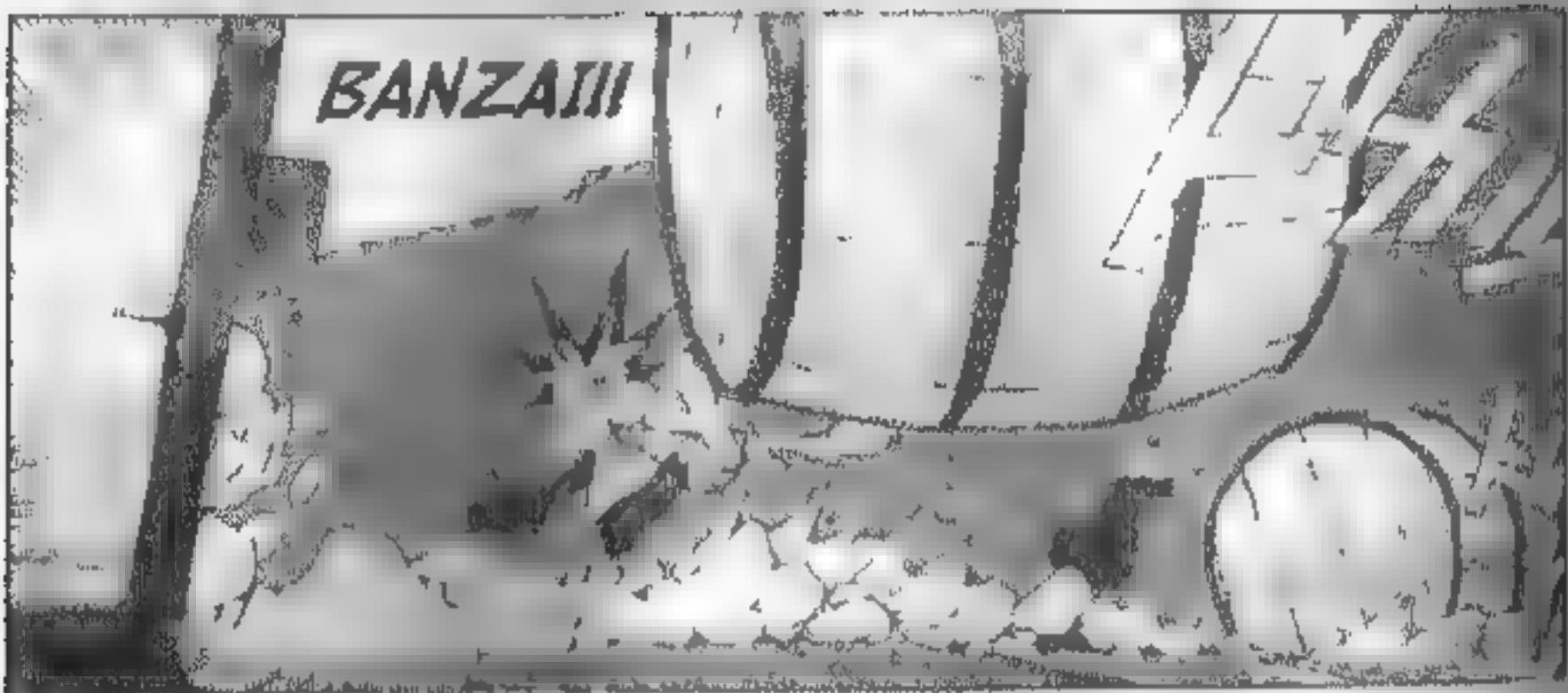
?

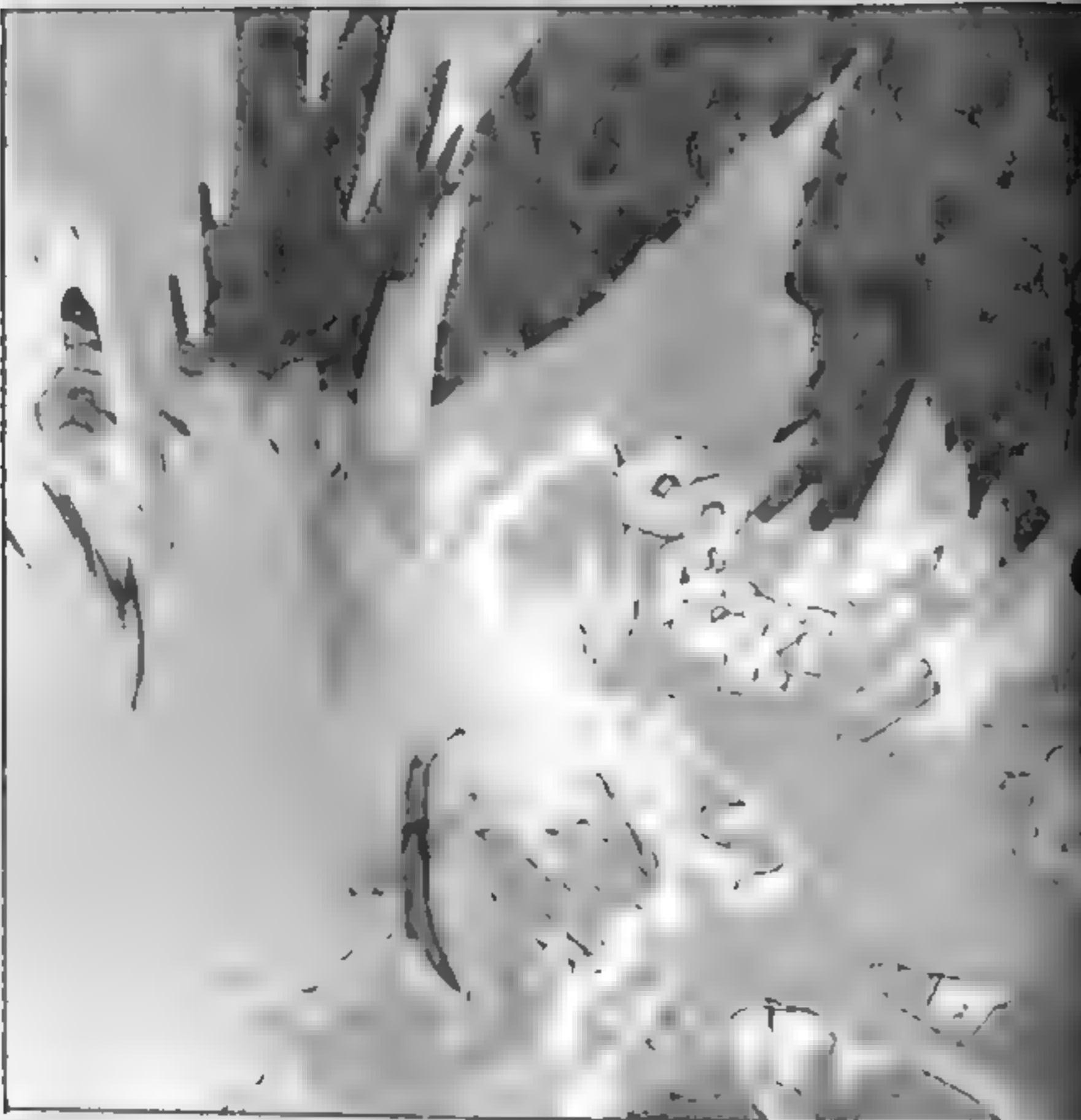
DROP  
ALL THE  
BARRELS  
INTO THE  
LAKE!!  
DON'T  
LEAVE ANY  
BEHIND!!!

WHY? THEY  
SAY THE KING  
CRIMSONS ARE  
AFRAID OF THE  
COLOR WHITE...  
IT SULLIES THEIR  
CROWNS.

QUICKLY!!  
QUICKLY!!!

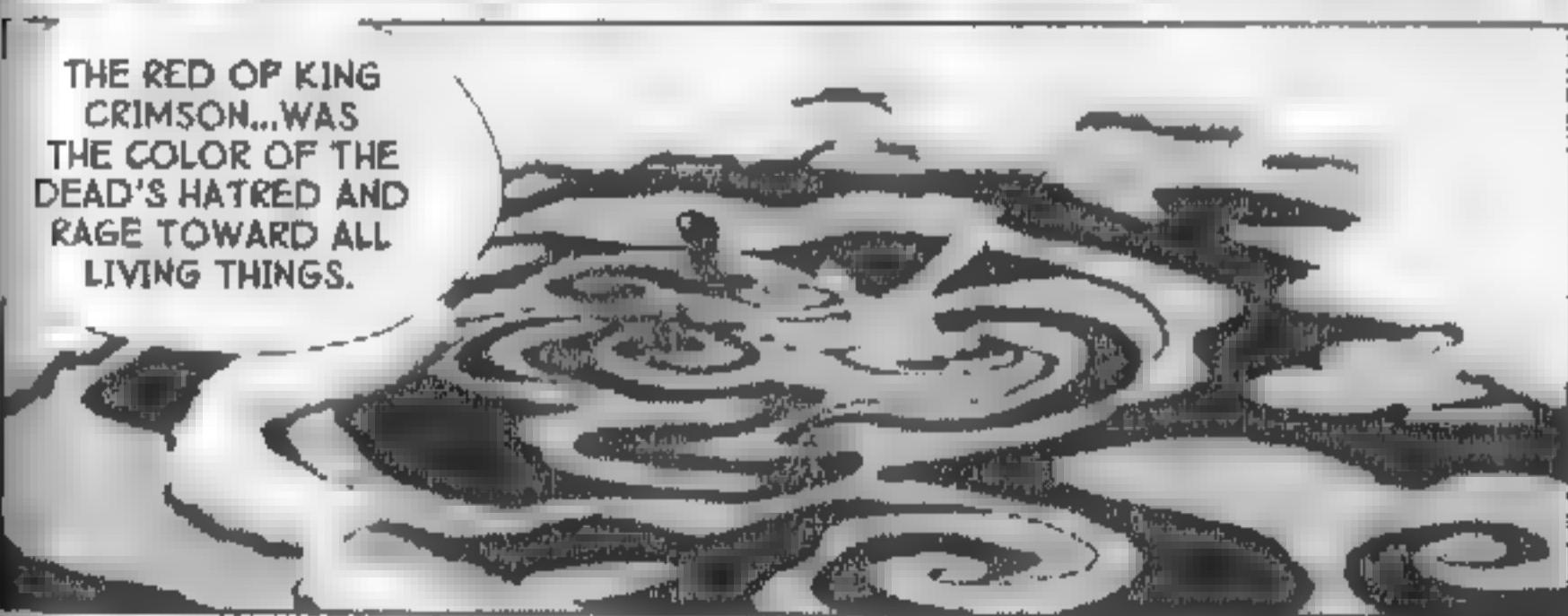
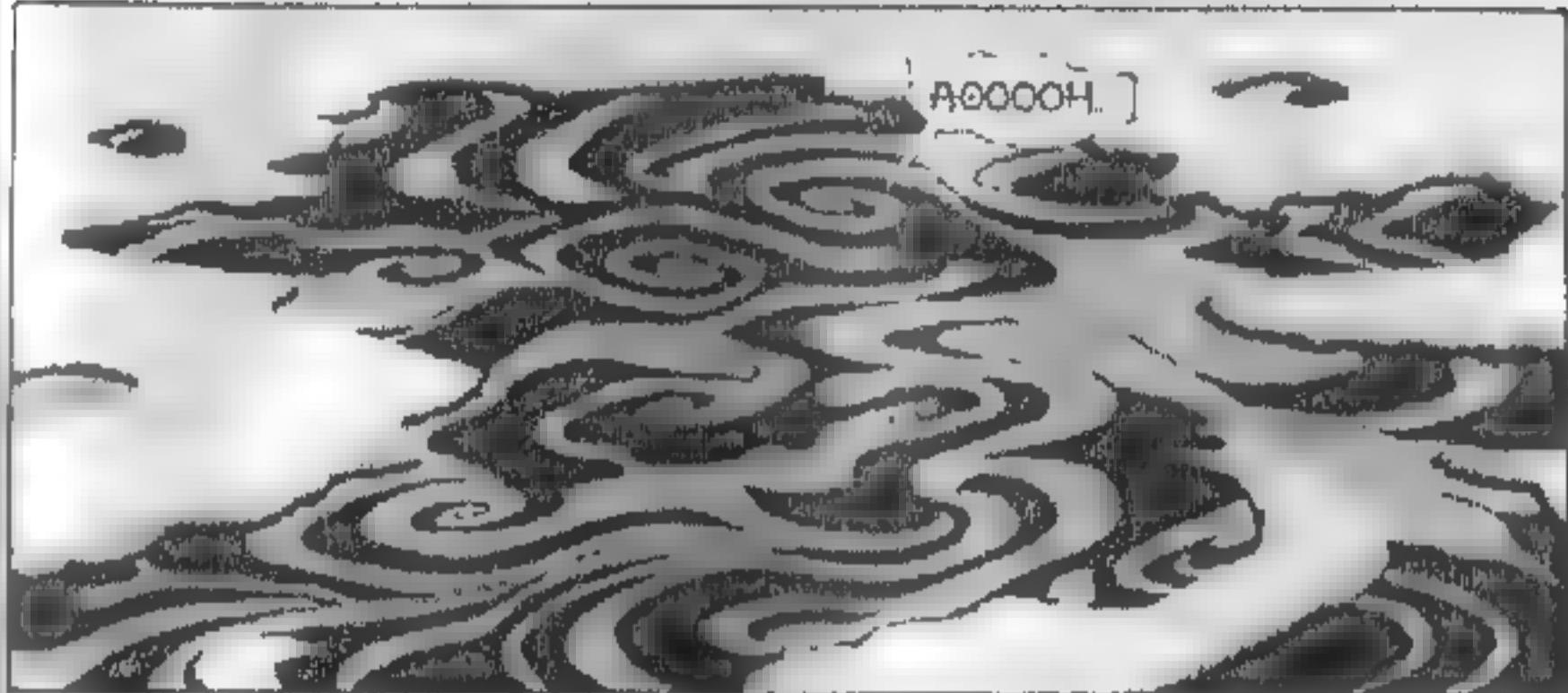
WHICH  
WAY?





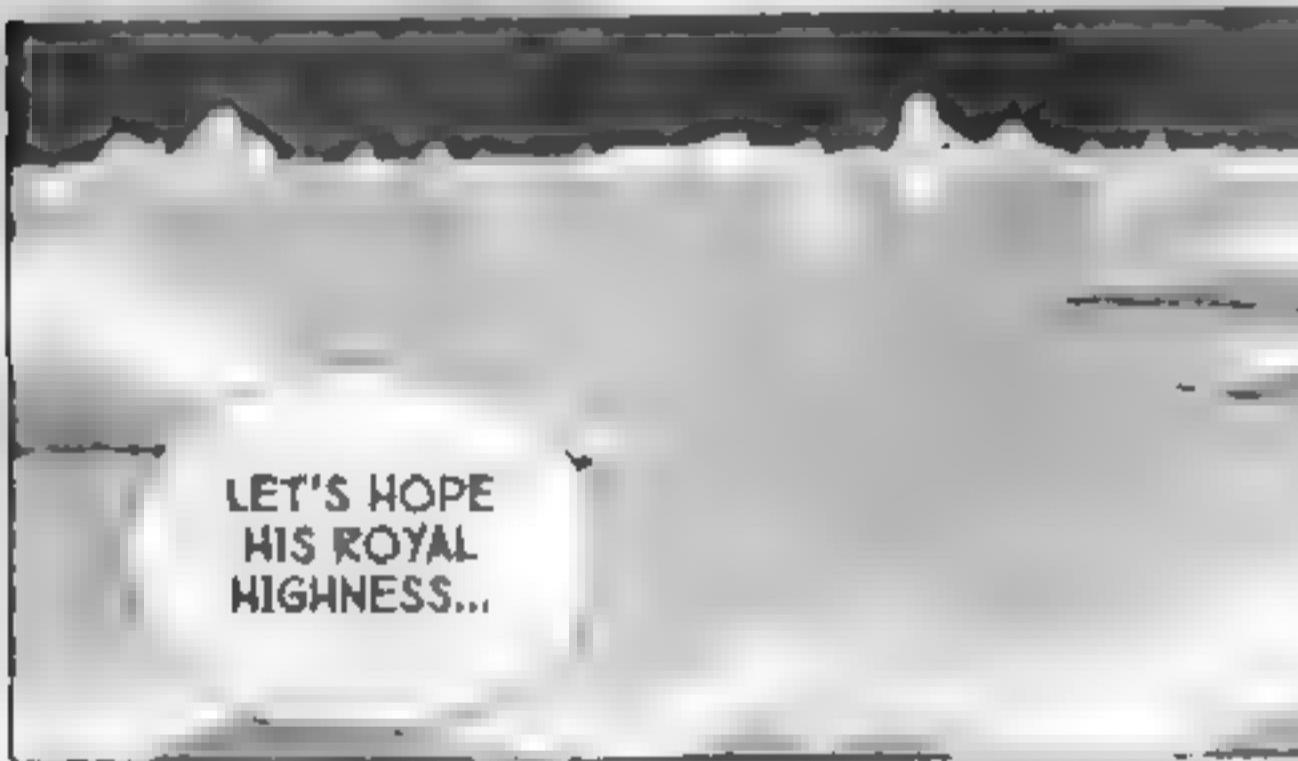
KIIIIIR ROYALE!!!



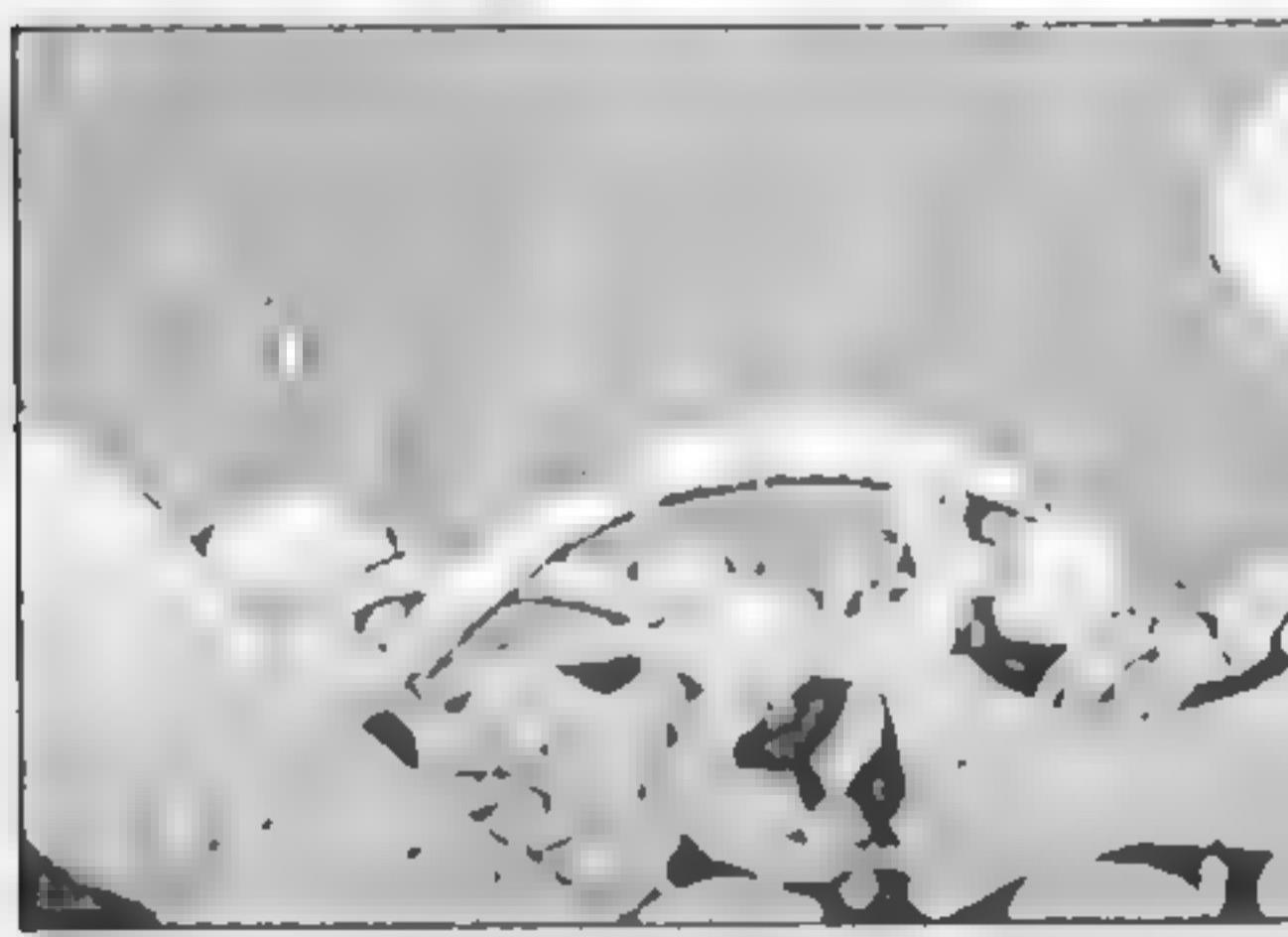




BUT WHEN THAT  
COLOR WAS  
VIOLATED THE  
KING LOST HIS  
CROWN



LET'S HOPE  
HIS ROYAL  
HIGHNESS...



WILL REST  
MORE EASILY  
NOW

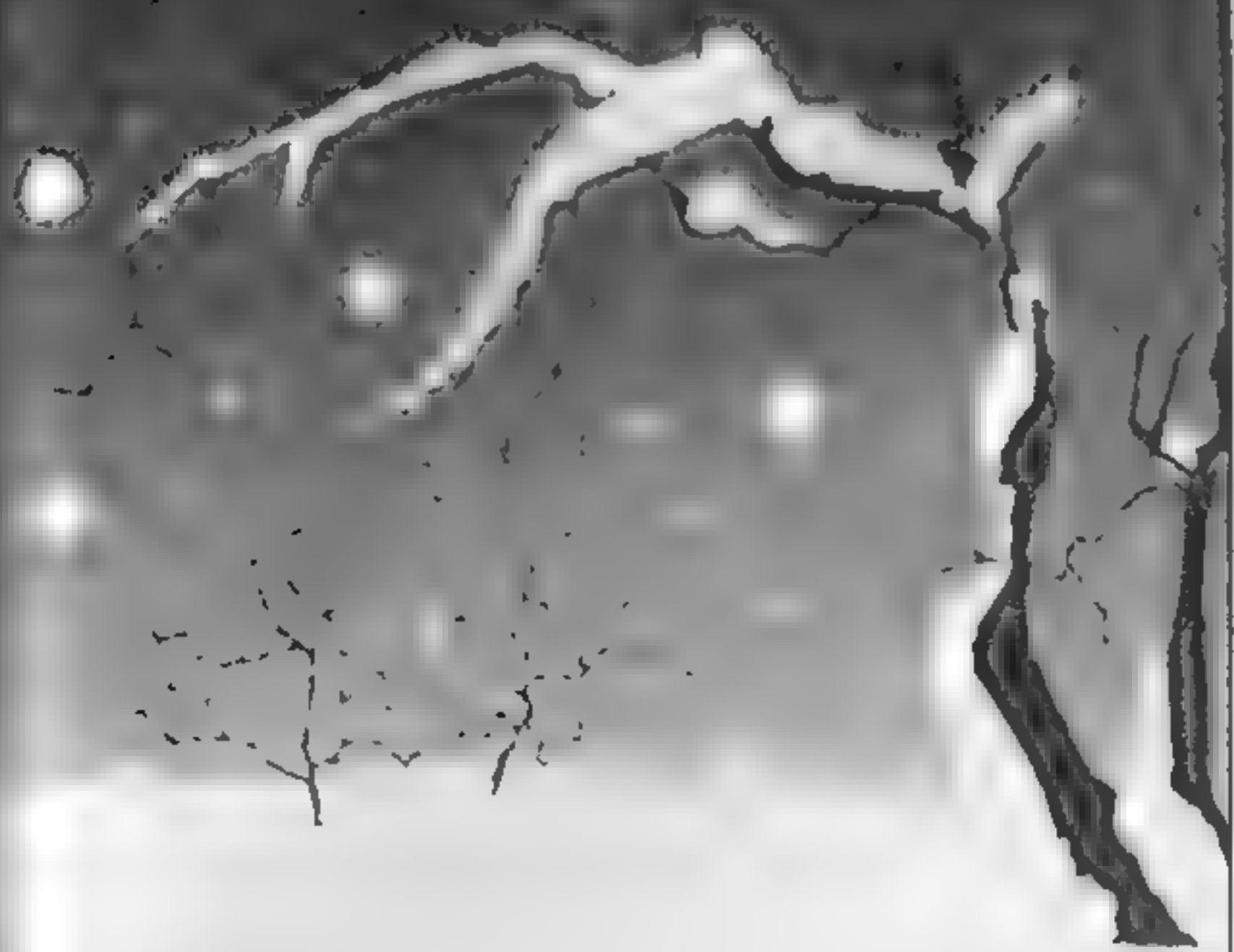


Visit our website at [www.mangafox.com](http://www.mangafox.com) to view this image in its original form.

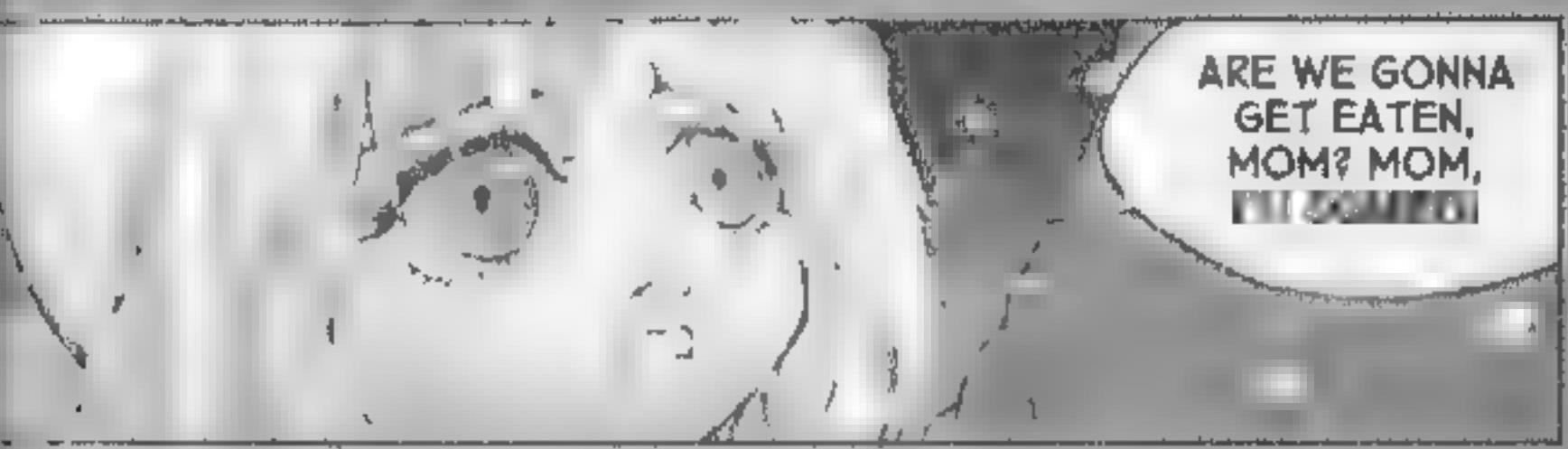
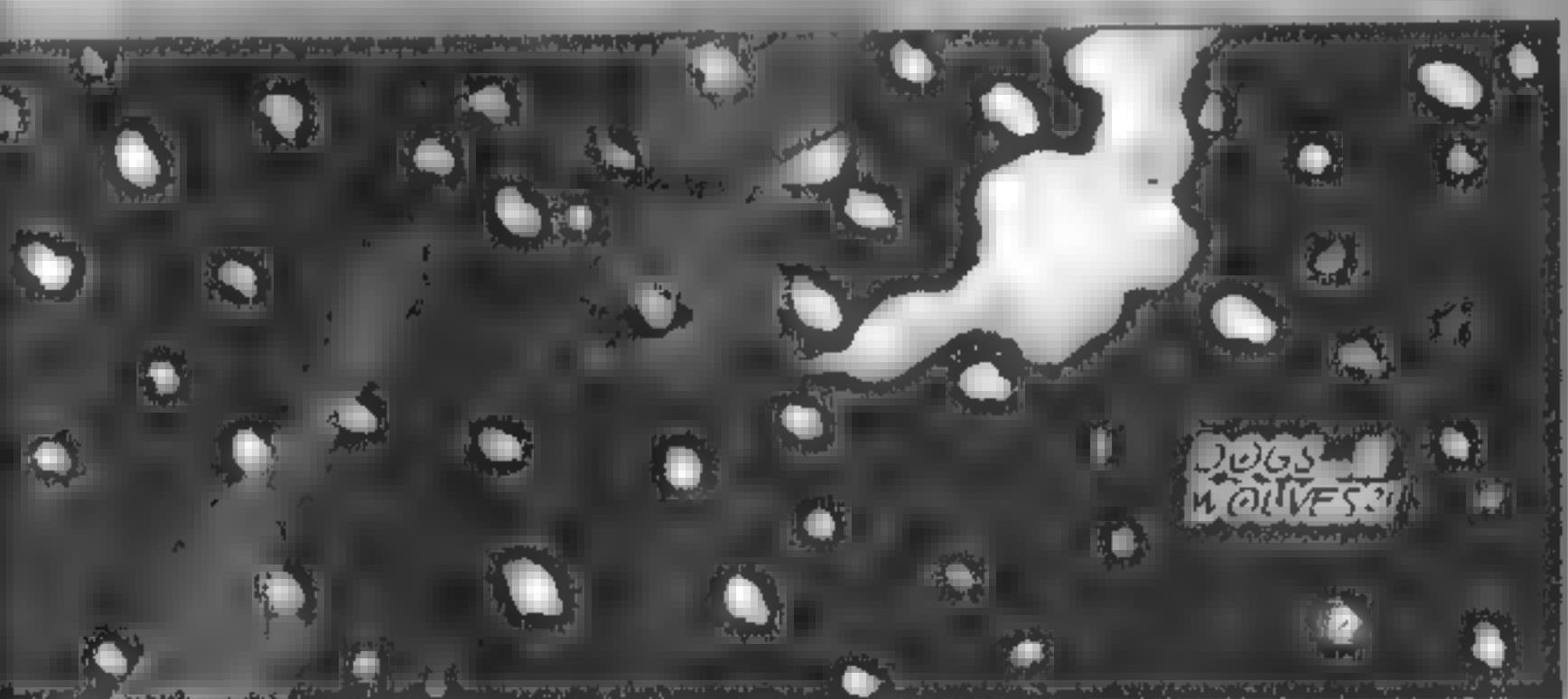
This image is hosted at mangafox.com, we take no credit for the creation or editing of this image.

All credits go to the appropriate parties involved in the creation or editing of this image.

IT'S  
SNOWING.



34TH SHOT: THE FIFTH ELEMENT



...WE'RE NOT  
THE ONLY  
ONES WHO  
ARE HUNGRY.



IT'S ALL  
RIGHT, FINO  
AS LONG AS  
WE HAVE  
THE WILL TO  
LIVE, THEY  
CAN'T GET US  
BESIDES

LIKE THIS  
LITTLE BABY  
BIRD...

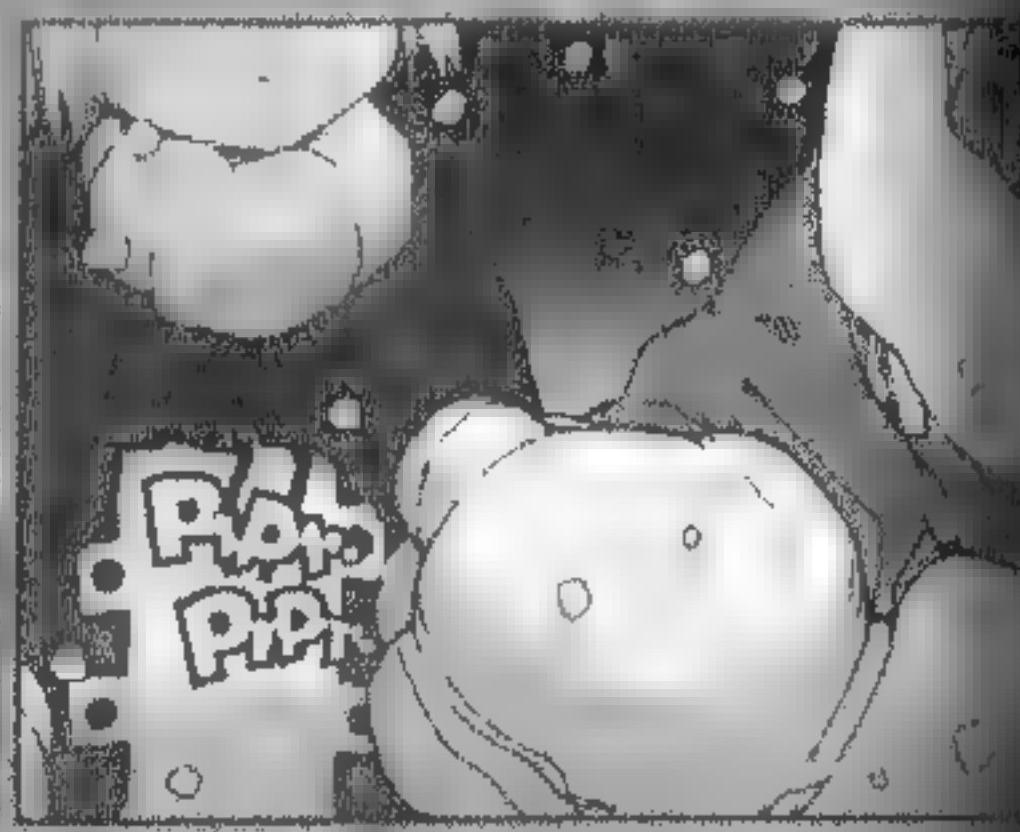


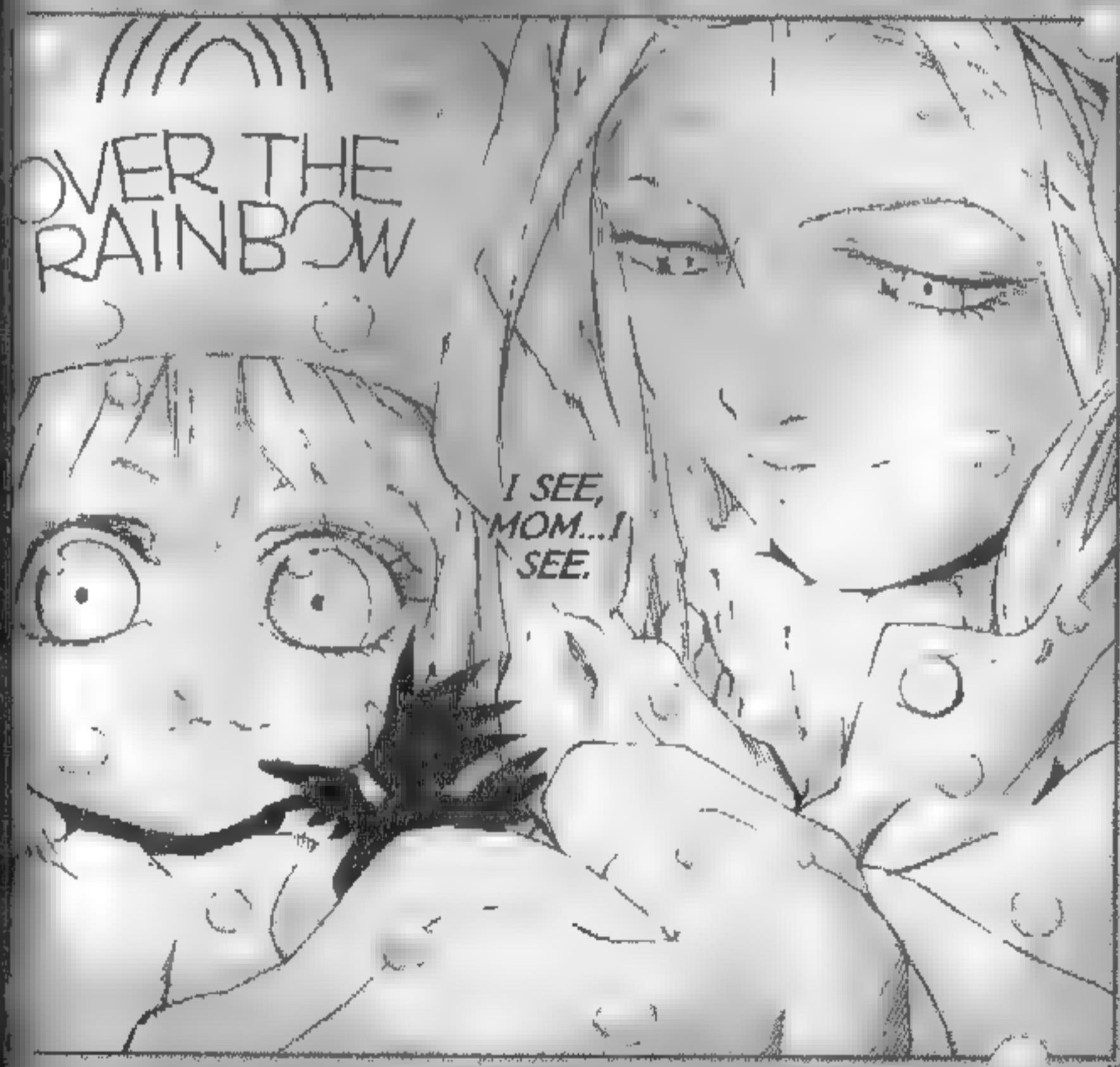
A BABY  
BIRD...  
MOMI

RAINBOW



Rainbow





RED...IT'S  
BLOOD.  
RED  
BLOOD...



MOM??

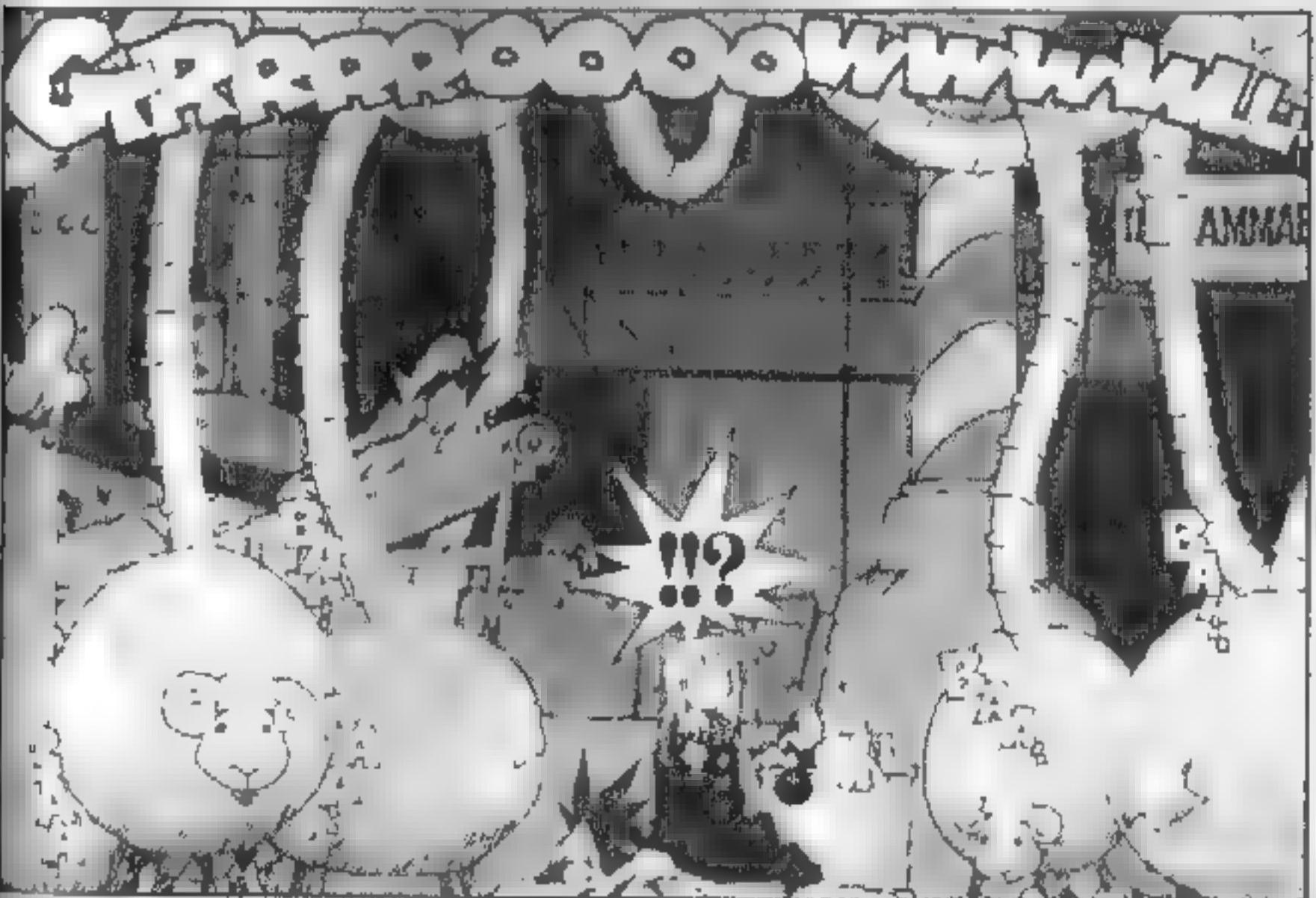
JUST LIKE  
IN DAD'S  
PAINTINGS

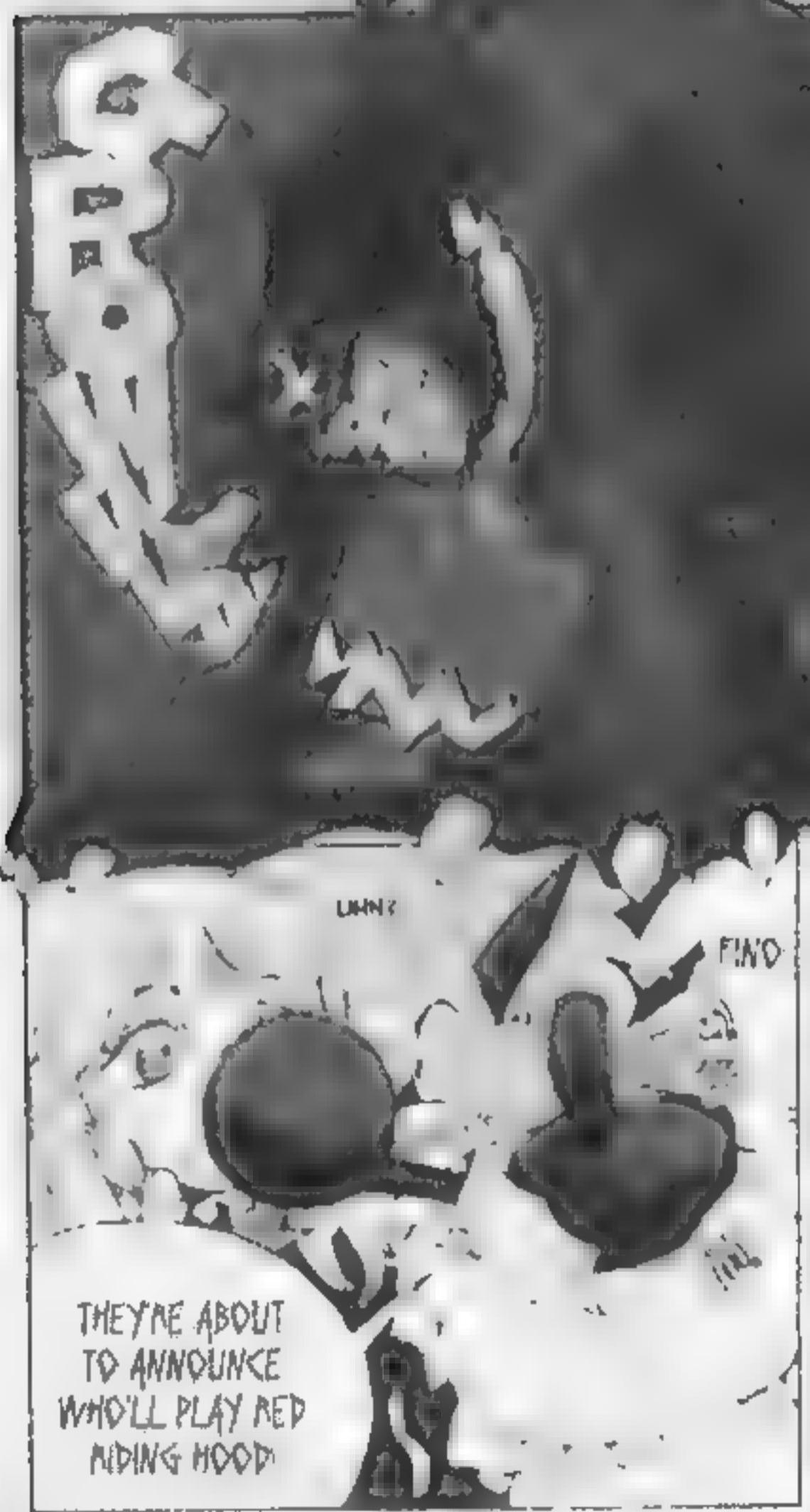
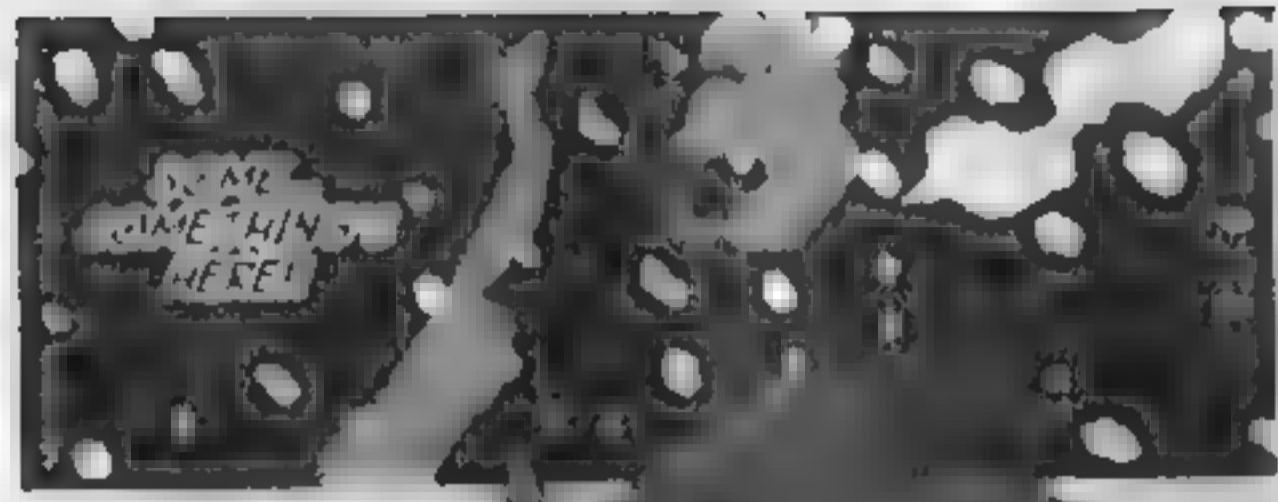
MOM...  
MOM!!!!

DEEP RED

PUPPY

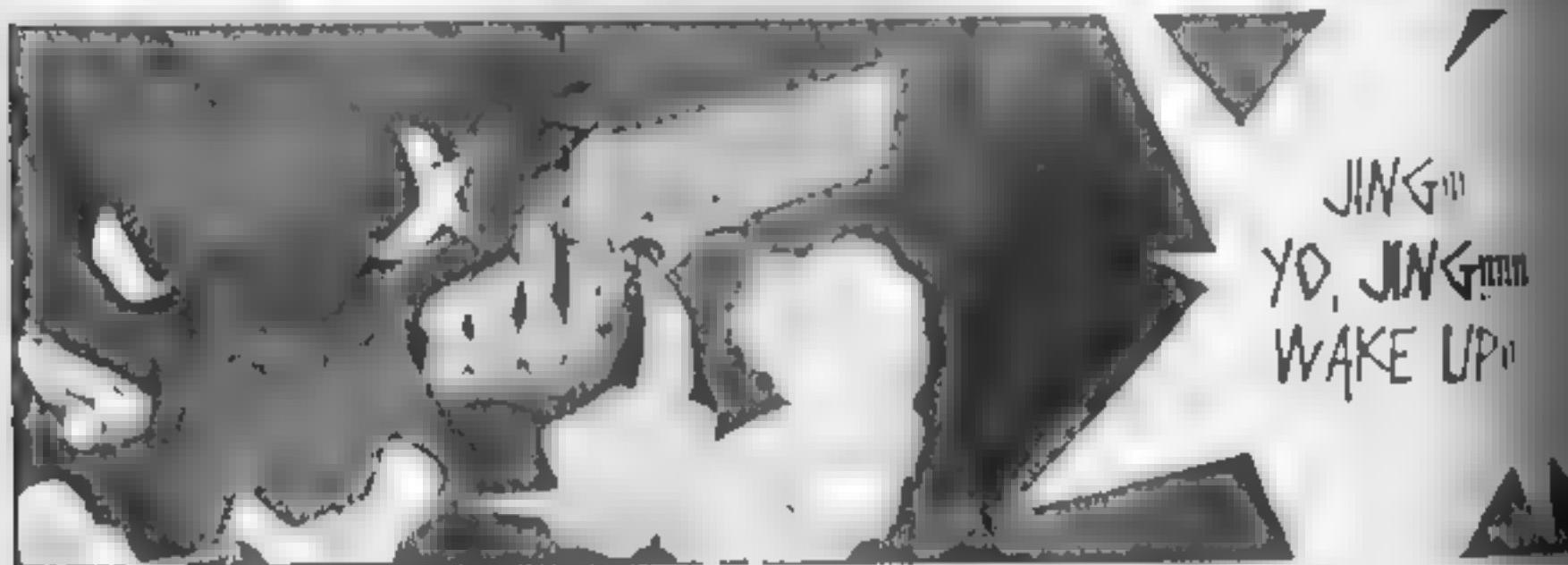
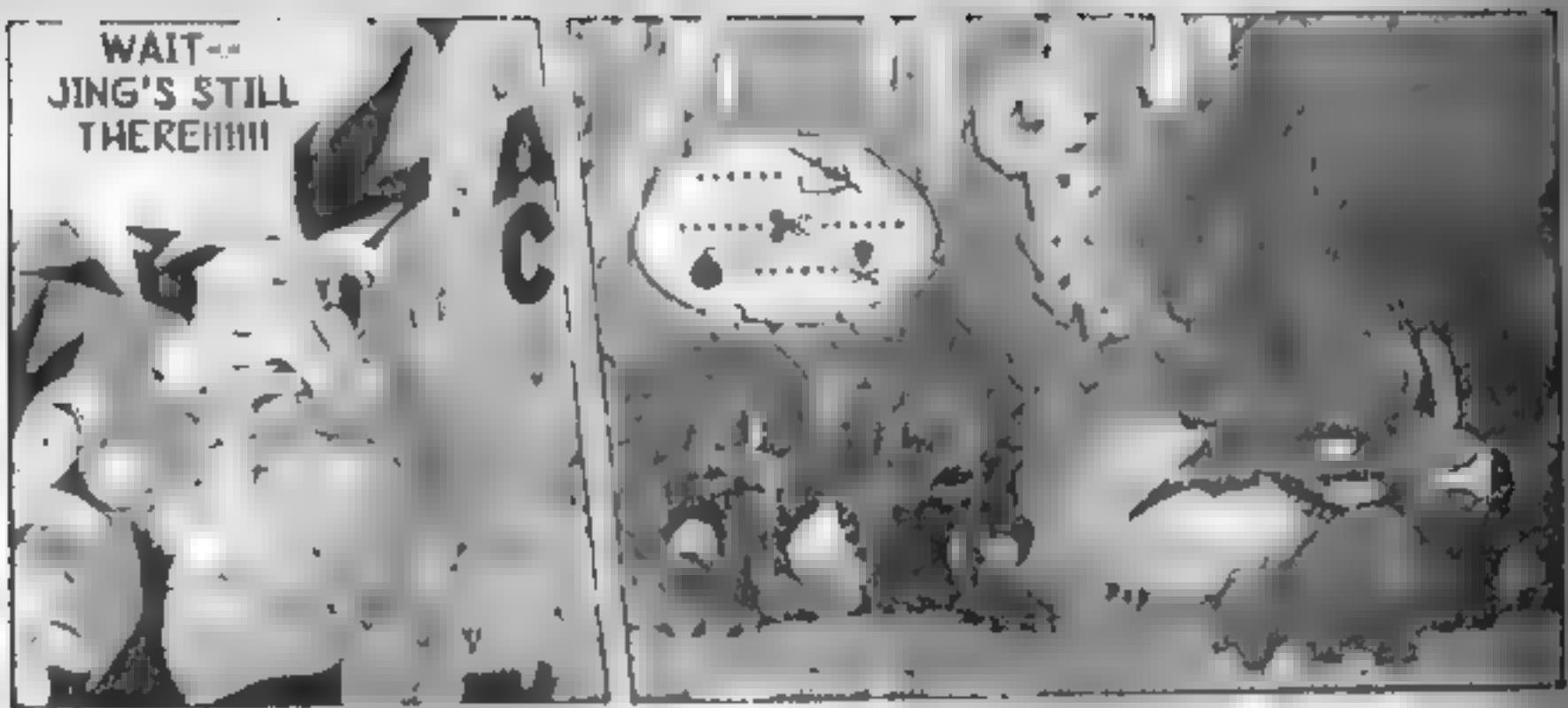
PUPPY







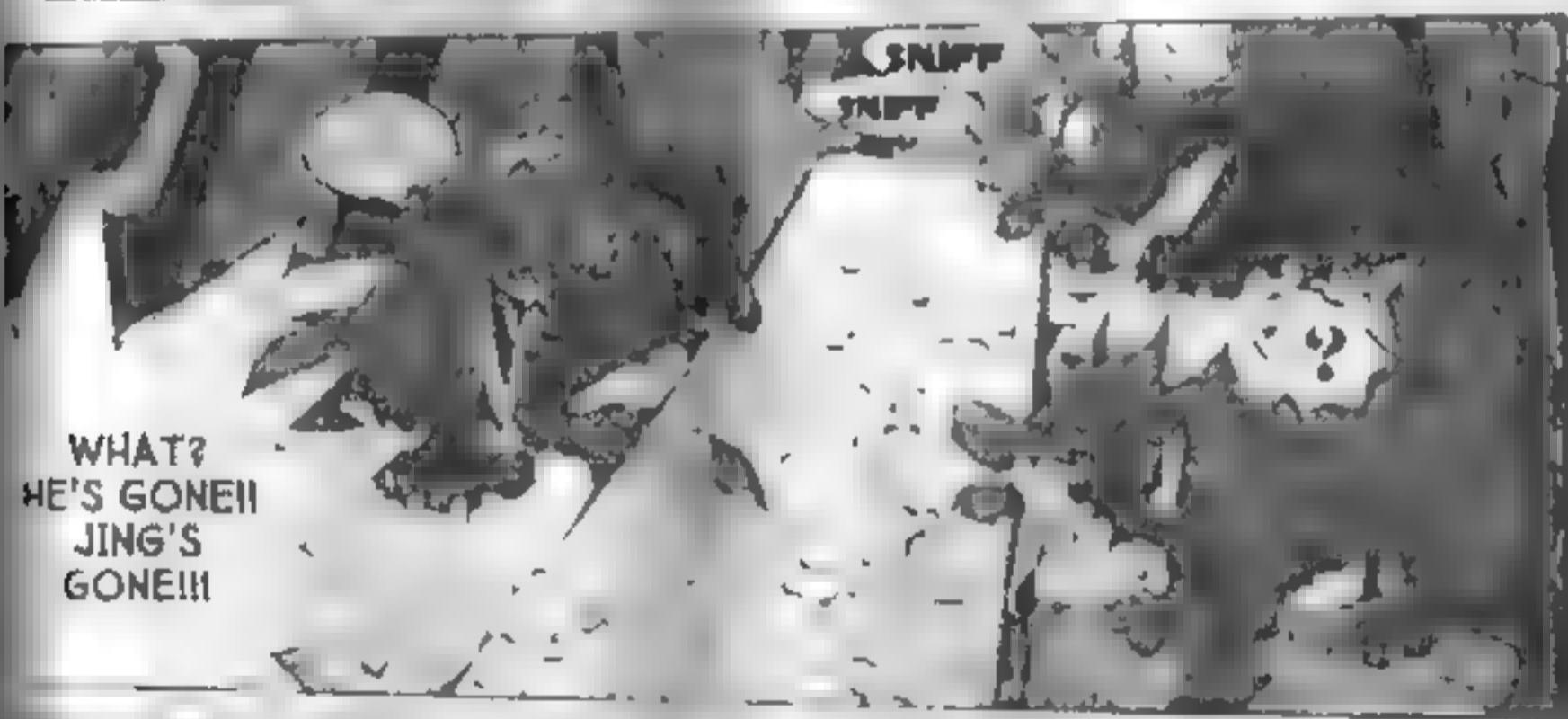
HOSE MSTDADS  
INJECTED THESE  
SHEEP FULL OF PAINT,  
DIDN'T THEY?





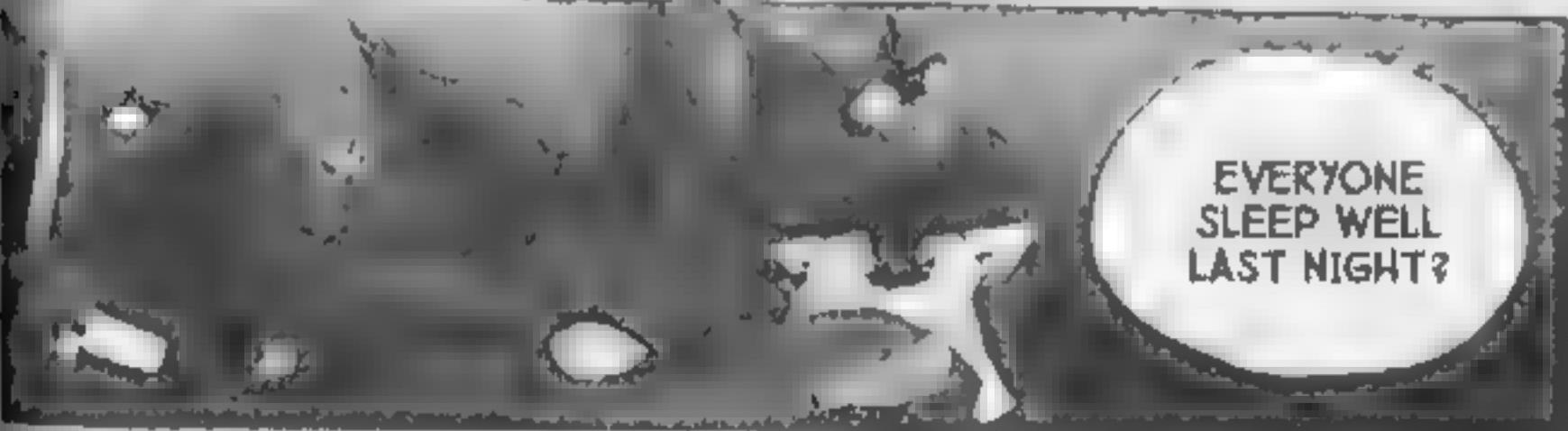
JINNNNG

KAKAHH



SNIFF

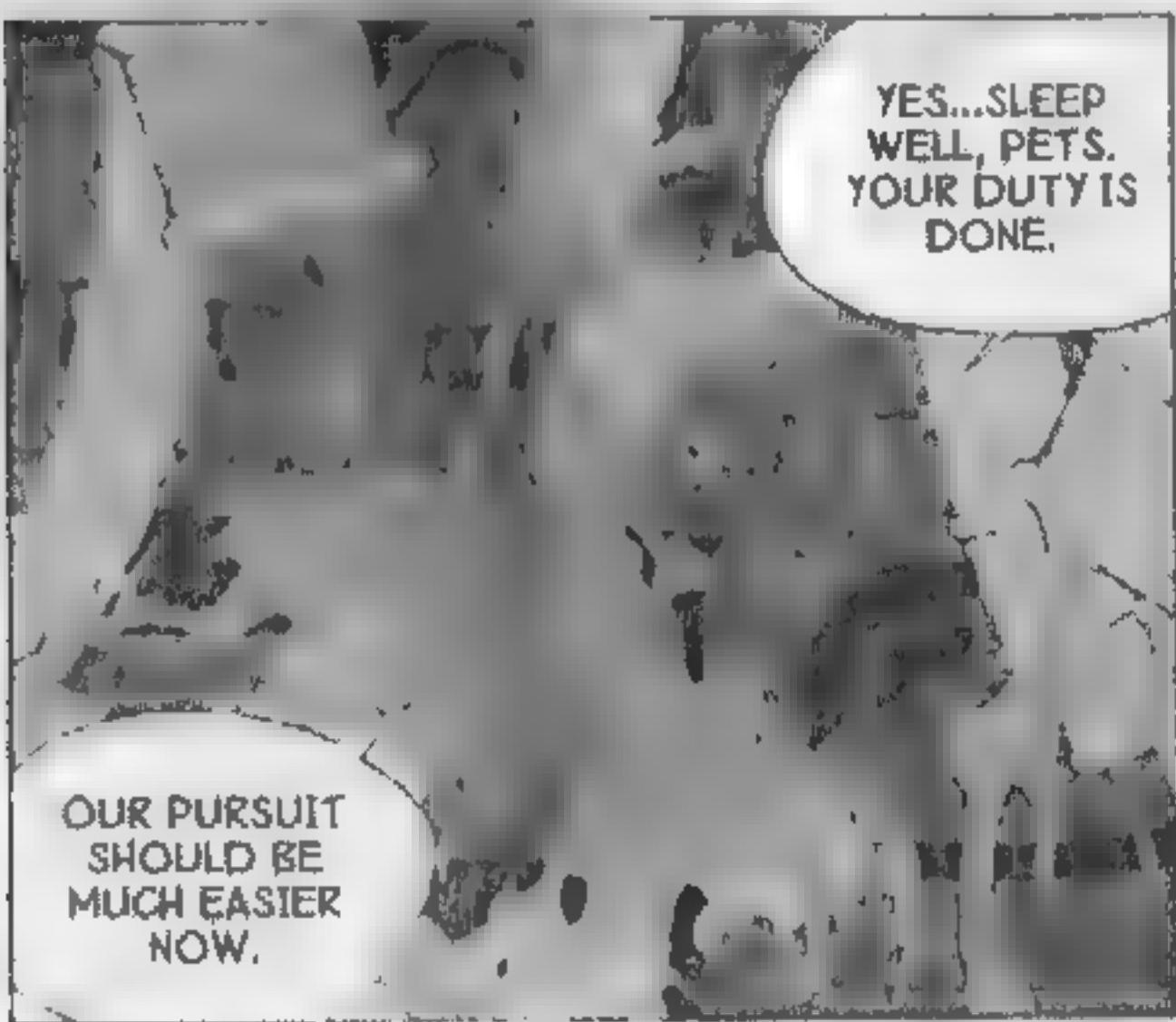
EVERYONE  
SLEEP WELL  
LAST NIGHT?





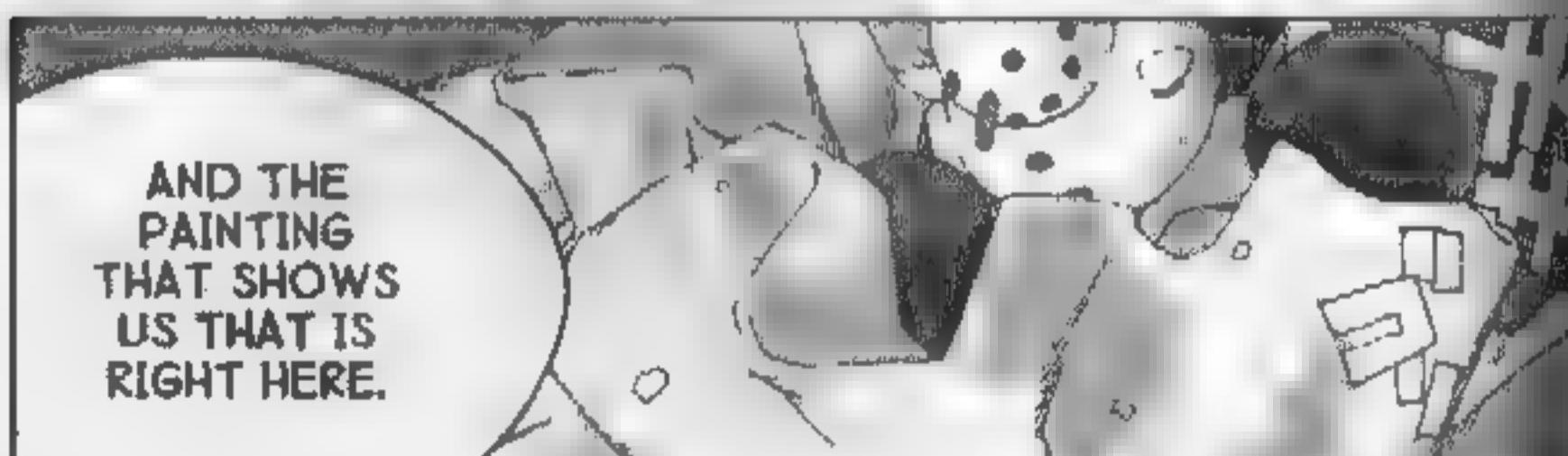
# GARIUPAI

...YOU'VE  
GOT A LOT  
OF SHEEP  
TO COUNT



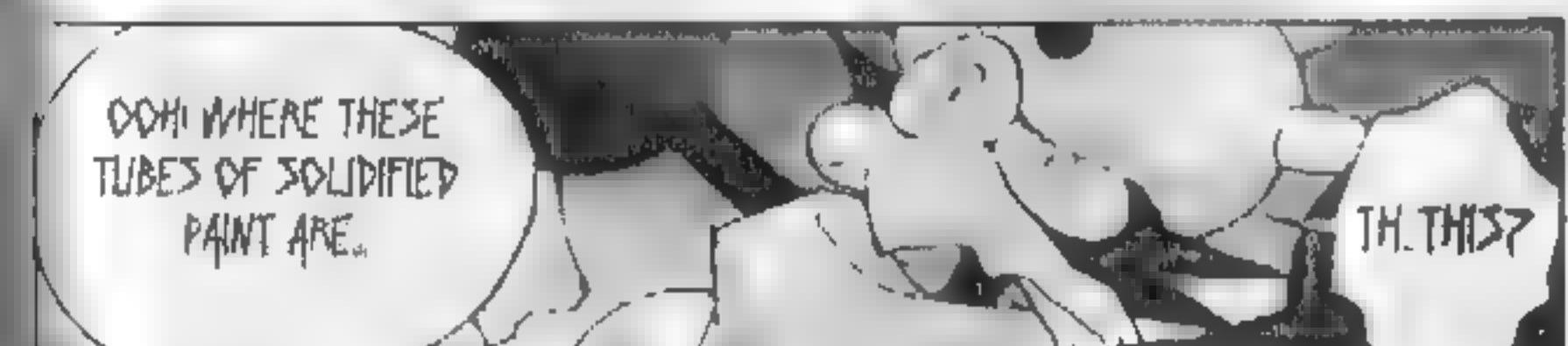
SOON,  
THEY'LL BE  
THE ONES  
THAT STINK  
OF BLOOD!!







!!!?



OHH! WHERE THESE  
TUBES OF SOLIDIFIED  
PAINT ARE.

TH. THIS?



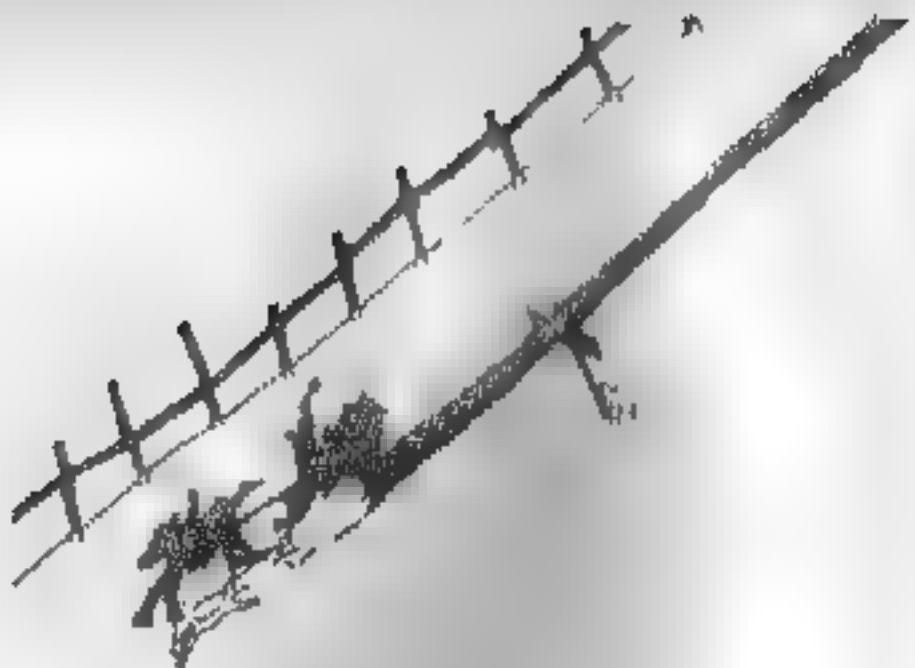
THEN,  
WHERE THE  
BRUSHES  
ARE...



...THAT'S  
PROBABLY  
POMPIERII

*a girl with a tattooed heart  
in  
pompier*





## 35TH SHOT - BURNING HOUSE OF ICE RIVER







SORRY...  
THERE WAS  
NO WAY IN  
BUT THE  
CHIMNEY...

HE FROZE  
THE ENTIRE  
HOUSE IN  
ICE, YOU  
SEE...

UUUUUUH, IT'S  
COLD! IT'S LIKE  
ALL OF WINTER  
CAME HERE FOR  
THE NIGHT!

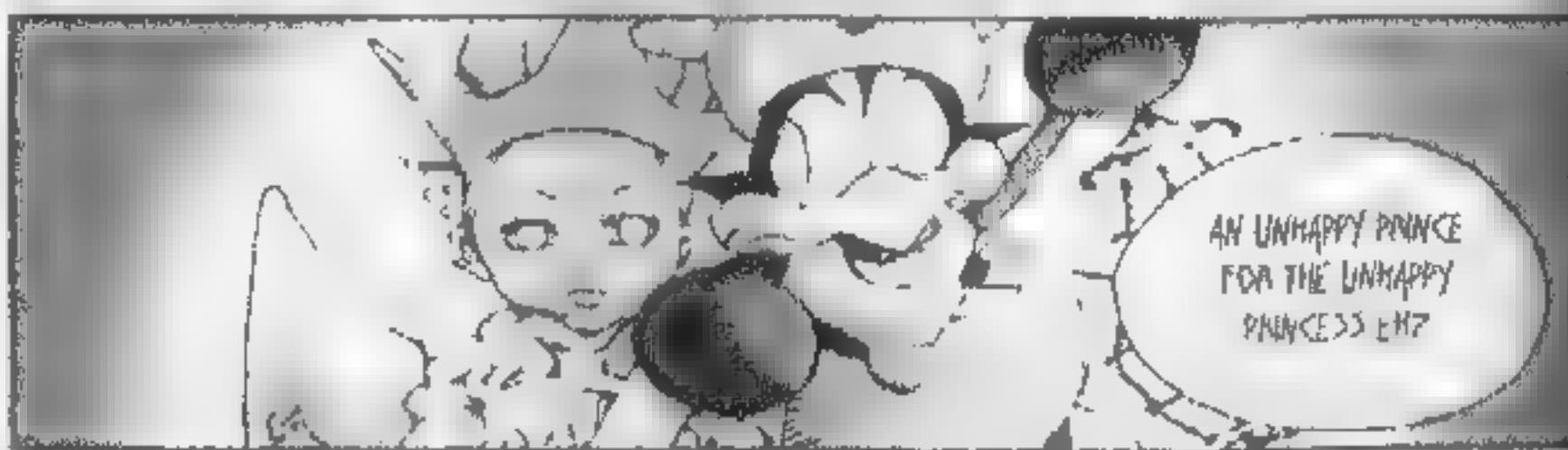
BUT AT  
LEAST WE'RE  
IN, RIGHT?

DATE  
10/99





122



MOTHER LOVED  
FEEDING THE  
BIRDS. SHE FED SO  
MANY BIRDS IN THIS  
ROOM.

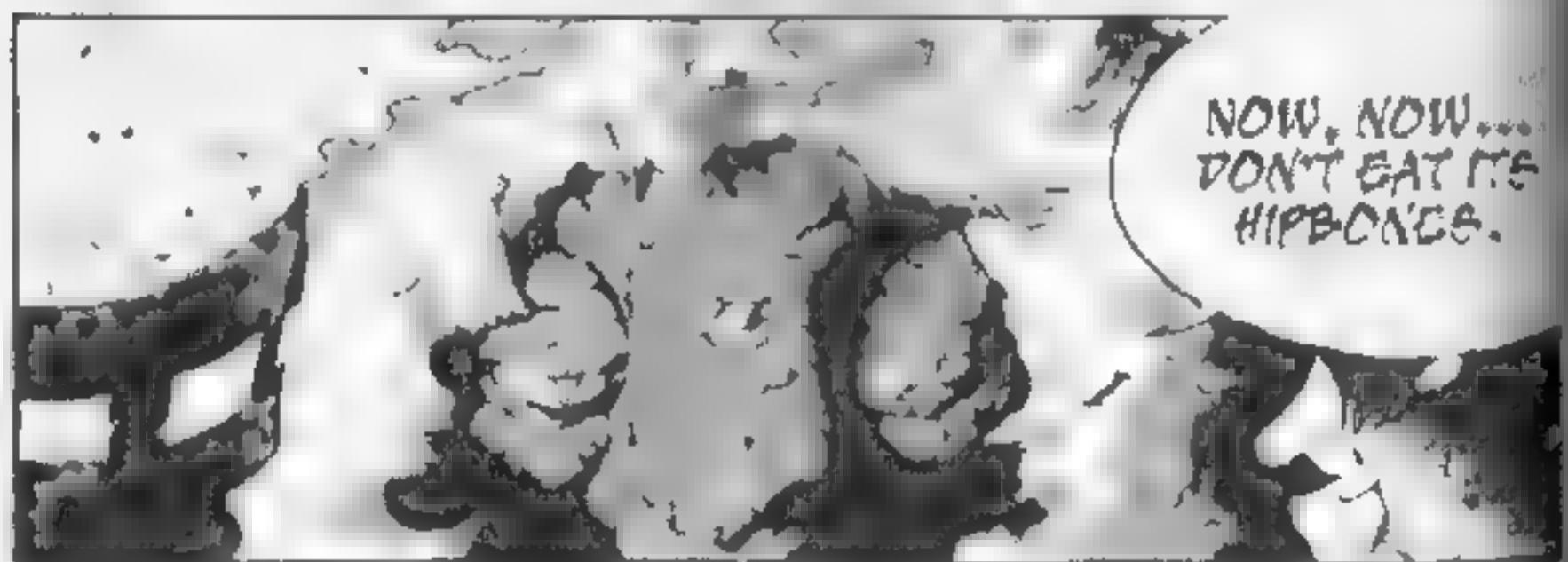
BUT AFTER  
FATHER LEFT...  
SHE FREED  
THEM ALL...

...AND A  
SHORT TIME  
LATER, WE  
ALSO LEFT.

...NEITHER DID  
MASTER PAINTER  
QUARTII

TRUE...BUT  
THEN AGAIN...

SUCH COLD-HEARTED  
BIRDS NONE OF  
THEM CAME BACK, DID  
THEY?



ALL AGO, I'M  
GOING TO NEED  
THAT OLD HORSE FOR  
THE TRANSPORT OF GOODS  
LATER ON...EVEN IF HE HAS  
OUTLIVED HIS PRIMS.

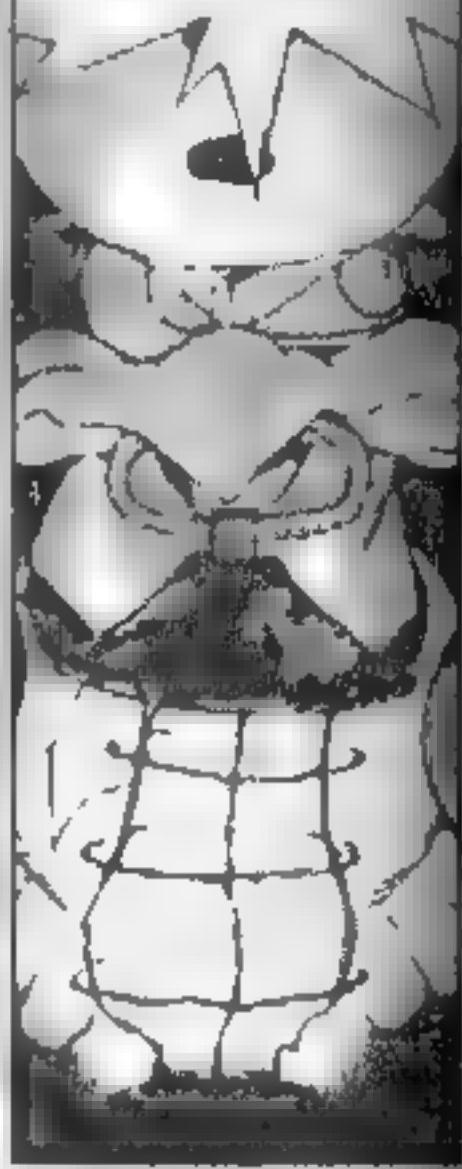
ALL FALCS  
BEFORE "LE EMPER-  
DORURE INCONNU,"  
THEY SAY!!

AH,  
DRAMBOIE...  
YOU FINALLY  
CATCH!!

IF I PULLED TEN  
THOUSAND MOLARS,  
I DOUBT IT WOULD  
CLOSE TO THE  
VALVE I'M ABOUT TO  
ENCOUNTER...



LE CHEF-D'ŒUVRE  
IN CONNUZ HECK  
I CAN'T EVEN FIND  
THE TOILET  
IT'S A SAD SAD THING  
WHEN A BIRD CAN'T  
DO HIS BUSINESS



COME TO THINK  
OF IT—if THIS THING  
REALLY DOES CONTAIN  
ALL THE COLORS IN THE  
WORLD—WOULDN'T THAT  
MAKE IT PITCH BLACK?



THE THING MUST'VE  
MELTED INTO THE  
SHADOWS OF THIS  
MANSION

I HAVEN'T SEEN  
ONE SINGLE  
CANVAS

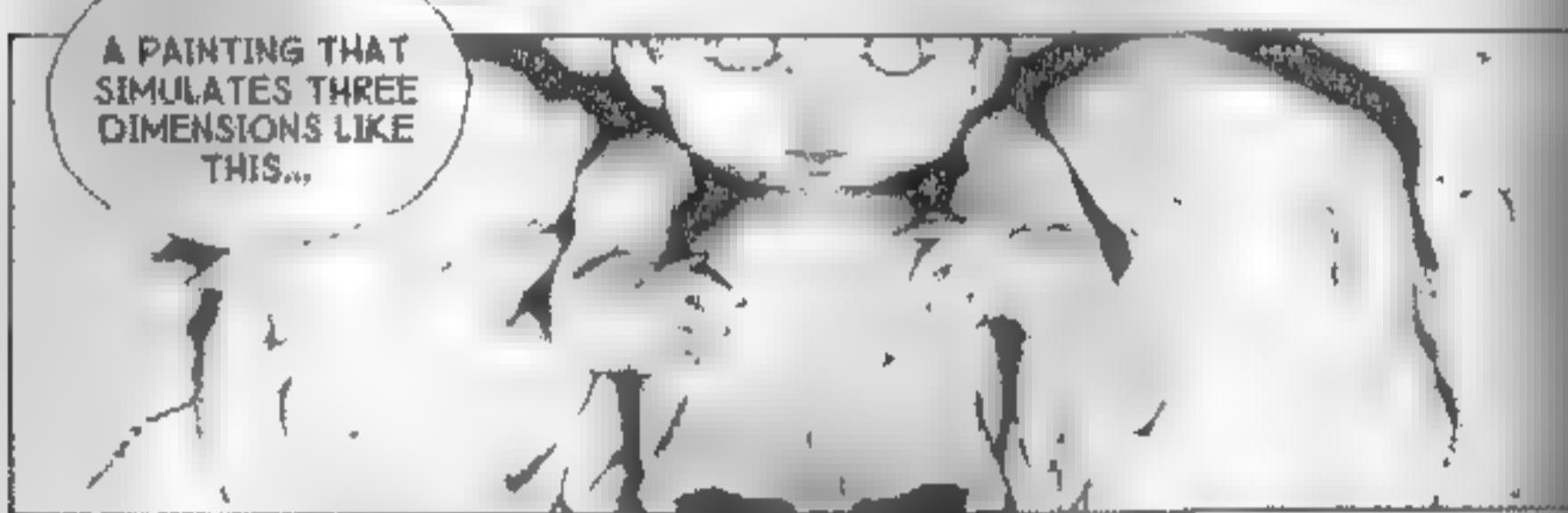
A PAINTING JING?  
LOOKS MORE LIKE A  
SCULPTURE A RELIEF!

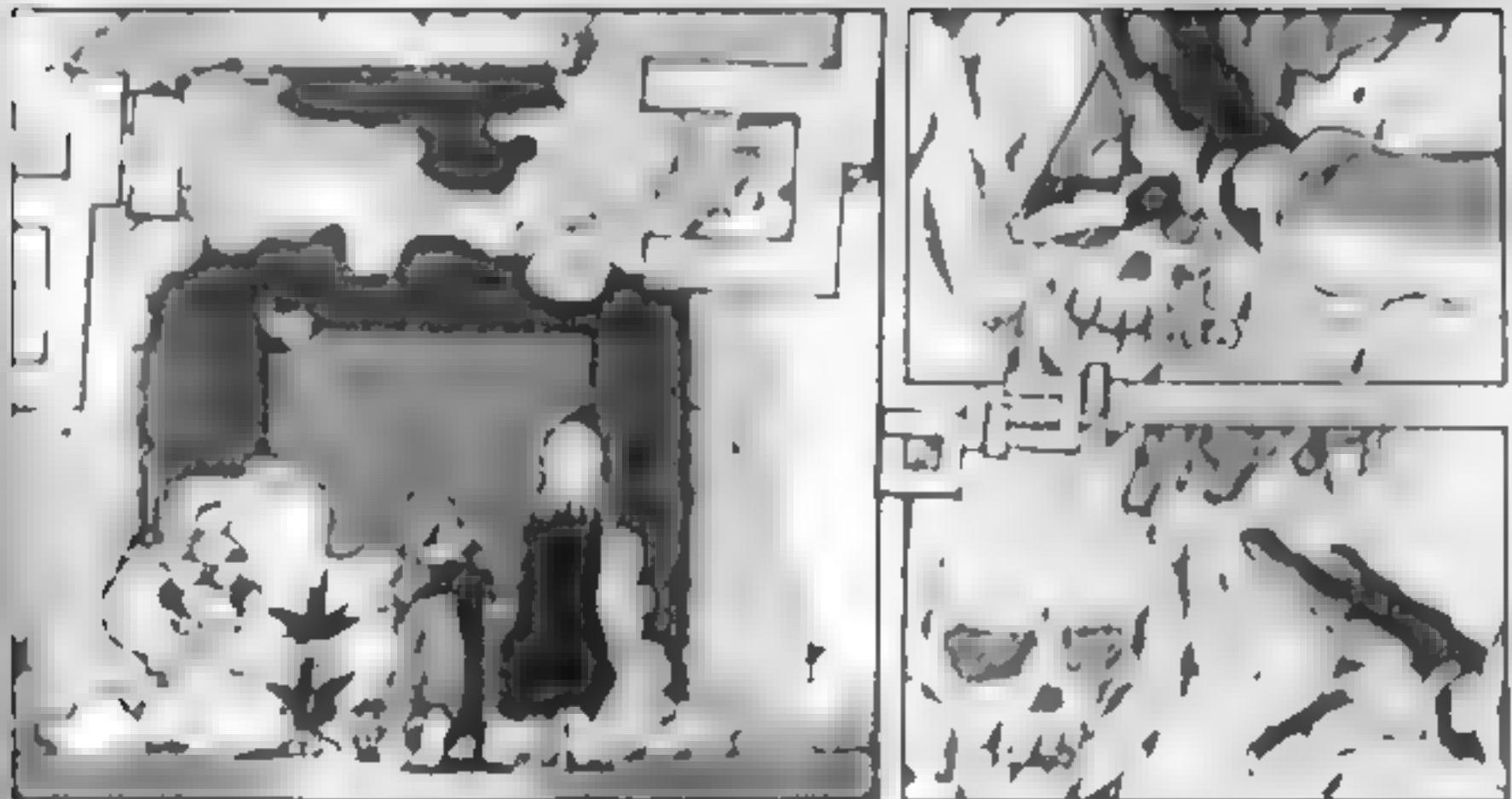
YOU SEE?  
THERE IS A  
PAINTING,  
HERE ON  
THIS WALL!!  
THERE'S YOUR  
CANVAS!!!!

WELL, SURE...  
EXCEPT FOR  
THIS ANGEL  
HERE.

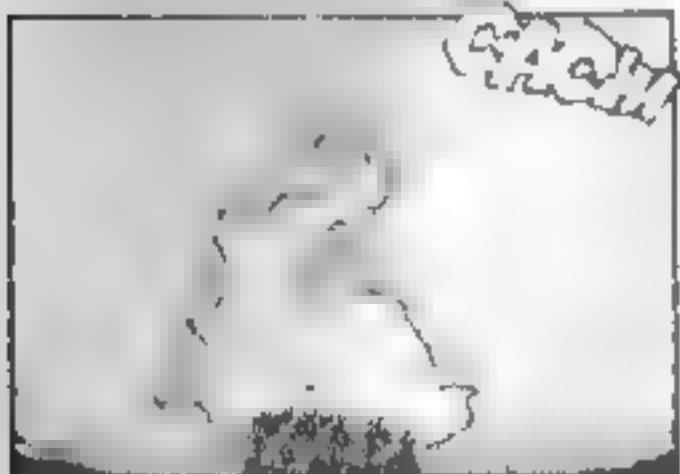
MOVE THE  
LIGHT--LIKE  
SO AND  
YOU'LL SEE  
WHAT I MEAN.

NO...IT'S  
A TROMPE  
L'OEIL!!!





20

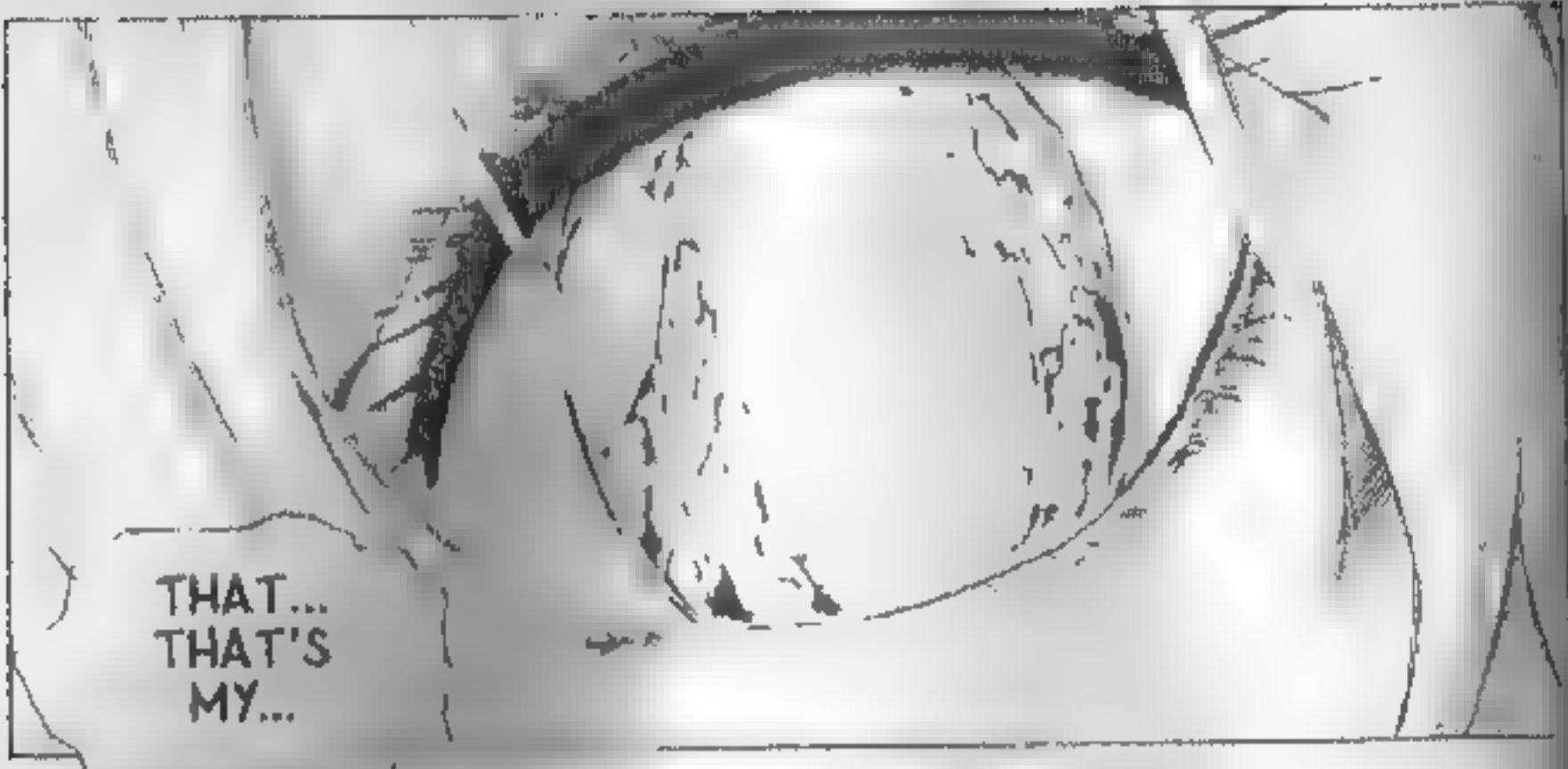




SOME KIND OF  
EXTREME-WEATHER  
ENDURANCE MEET?  
OH

FINO...FINO...  
THAT...!

OH...AH...  
AHH!



THAT...  
THAT'S  
MY...

...FATHER!!



**王道行**

KING OF BANDOS

**WANG**

VOLUME 7 OF 7

STORY AND ART BY  
YUICHI KUMAKURA



Los Angeles • Tokyo • London • Hamburg

MY, MY...  
GIFTS FOR US,  
DOKTOR!!

BUT OF COURSE,  
DRAMBOIS.

THE PRINCE OF  
HAPPINESS COMES  
WITH THE PLACE  
FREE OF CHARGE!

HA HA HA  
HA HA HA  
HA HAH!!  
THIS IS  
THE PLACE!!  
I'M SURE  
OF IT!!



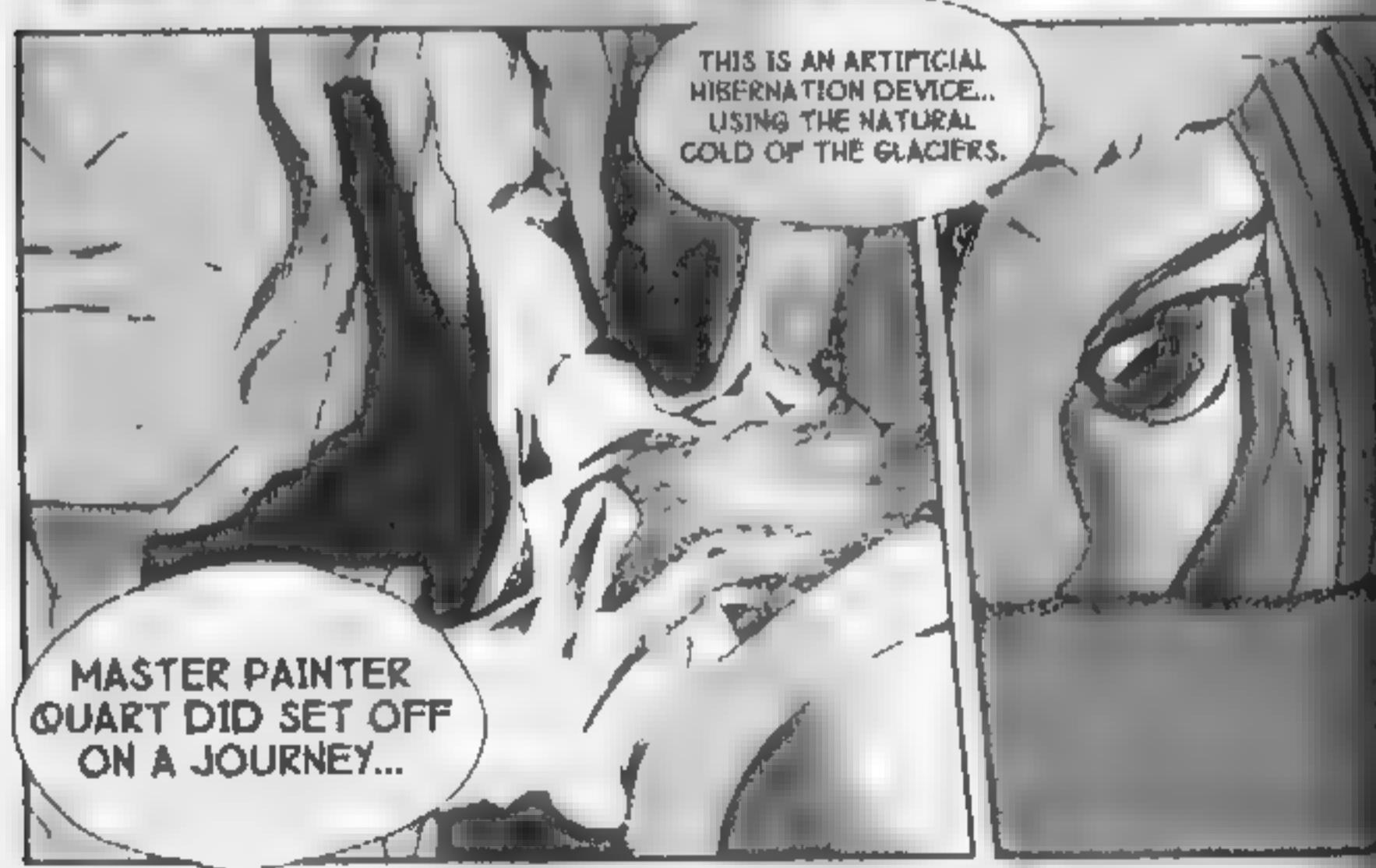
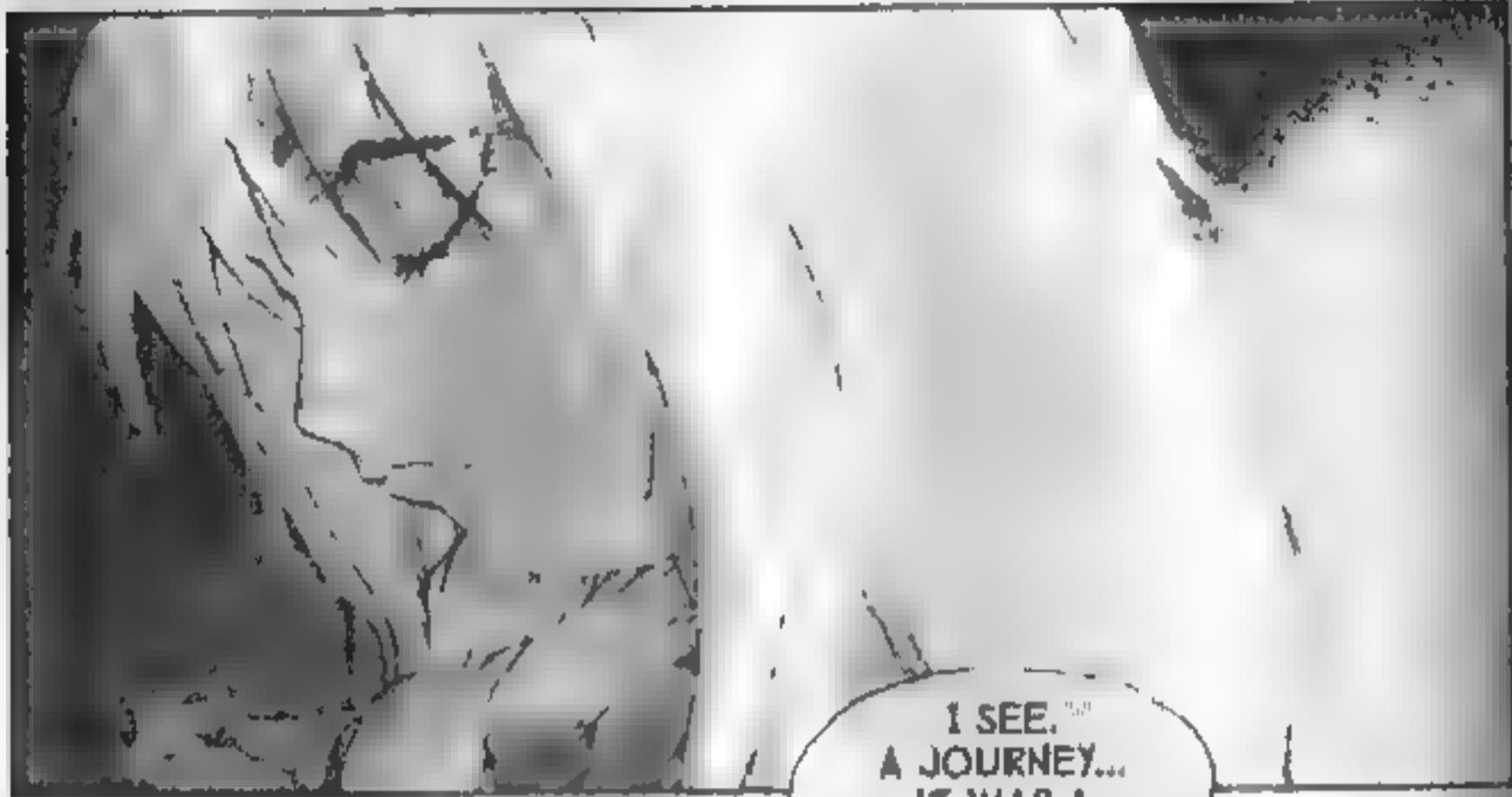
WHAT IS MASTER PANTER  
QUANT DOING HERE?  
DIDN'T HE SET OFF ON HIS  
JOURNEY?

WE'LL HAVE OUR  
ANSWERS AS SOON  
AS HE WAKES UP!  
MEOW

DEAD ?  
NO..

HEY, WAKE  
UP, SLEEPIN'  
WE'RE  
GONNA CATCH  
YOU

WALKY





...TO ANOTHER  
TIME...IN HOPES OF  
MEETING HIS TRUE  
COLORS.

IN OTHER WORDS...  
UNTIL HIS IDEAL  
PAINTS COULD BE  
INVENTED.

WHY'S  
JUST BEEN  
WAITING  
HERE ALL  
THIS TIME?"

WHERE'S  
FINO?!!

FINOOOO!

WELL, WHAT'RE  
WE WAITIN' FOR—  
LET'S SPLIT UP  
AND LOOK FOR  
HER!!

THAT WAS PRETTY  
COLD OF HIM. NOW  
THAT I THINK OF IT  
EVEN I'M CREEPED  
OUT

YES...  
IT MUST HAVE BEEN  
A CRUEL SHOCK  
TO REUNITE WITH  
HER FATHER IN  
THAT FORM.

FIND  
HER

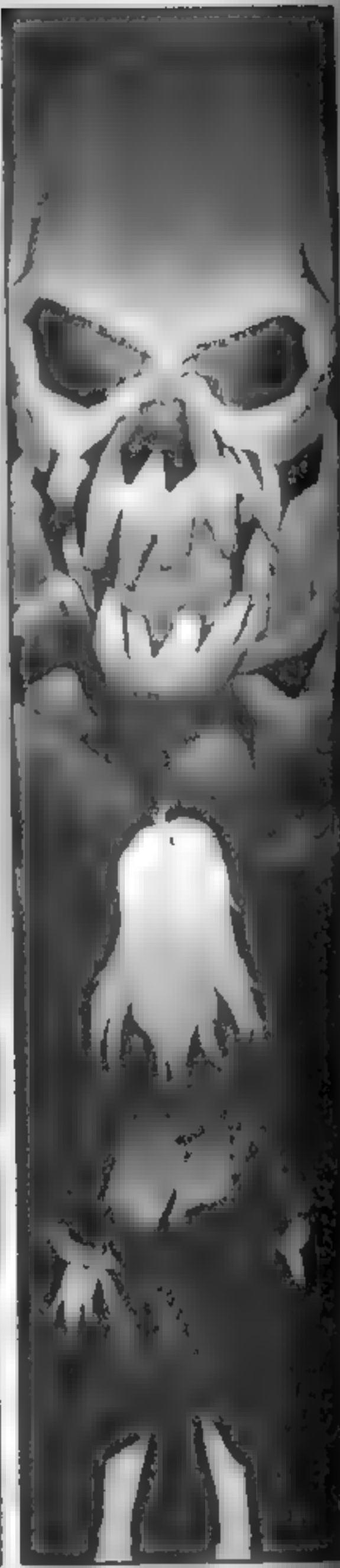
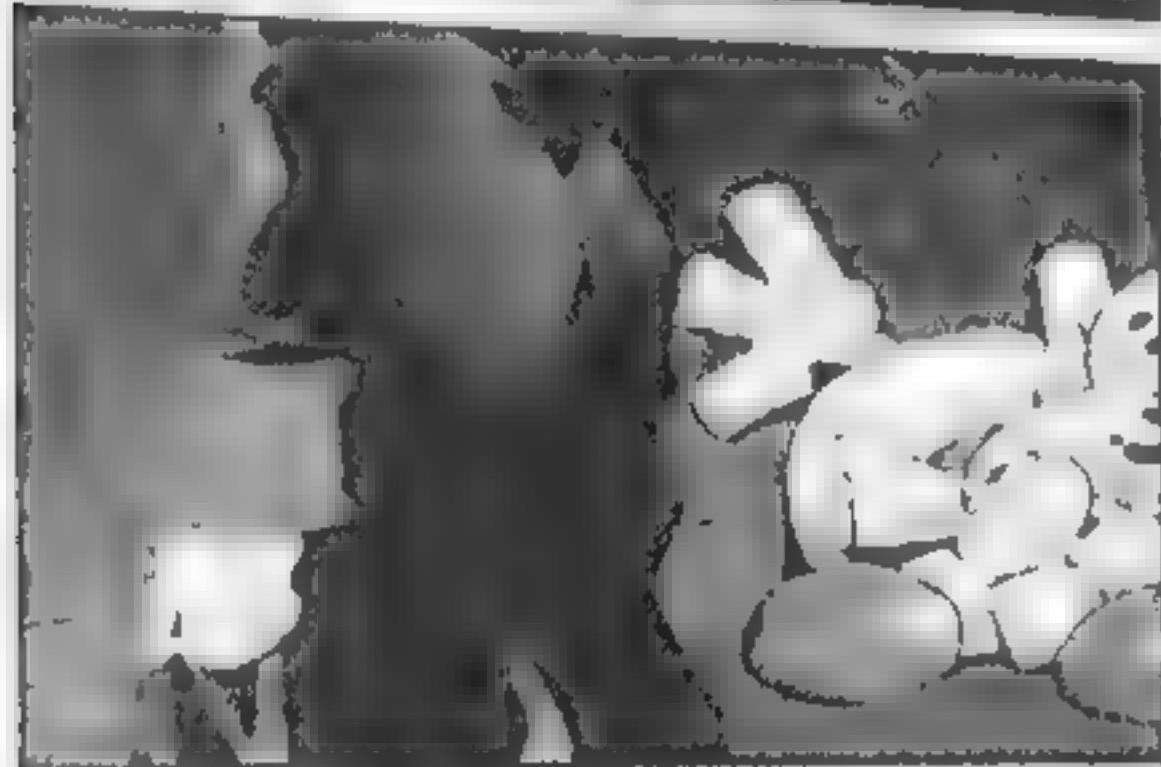
CAREFUL... PINO'S  
NOT THE ONLY ONE  
IN DANGER. IF ANY  
OF US GETS LOST  
IN THIS SUB-ZERO  
MAZE...

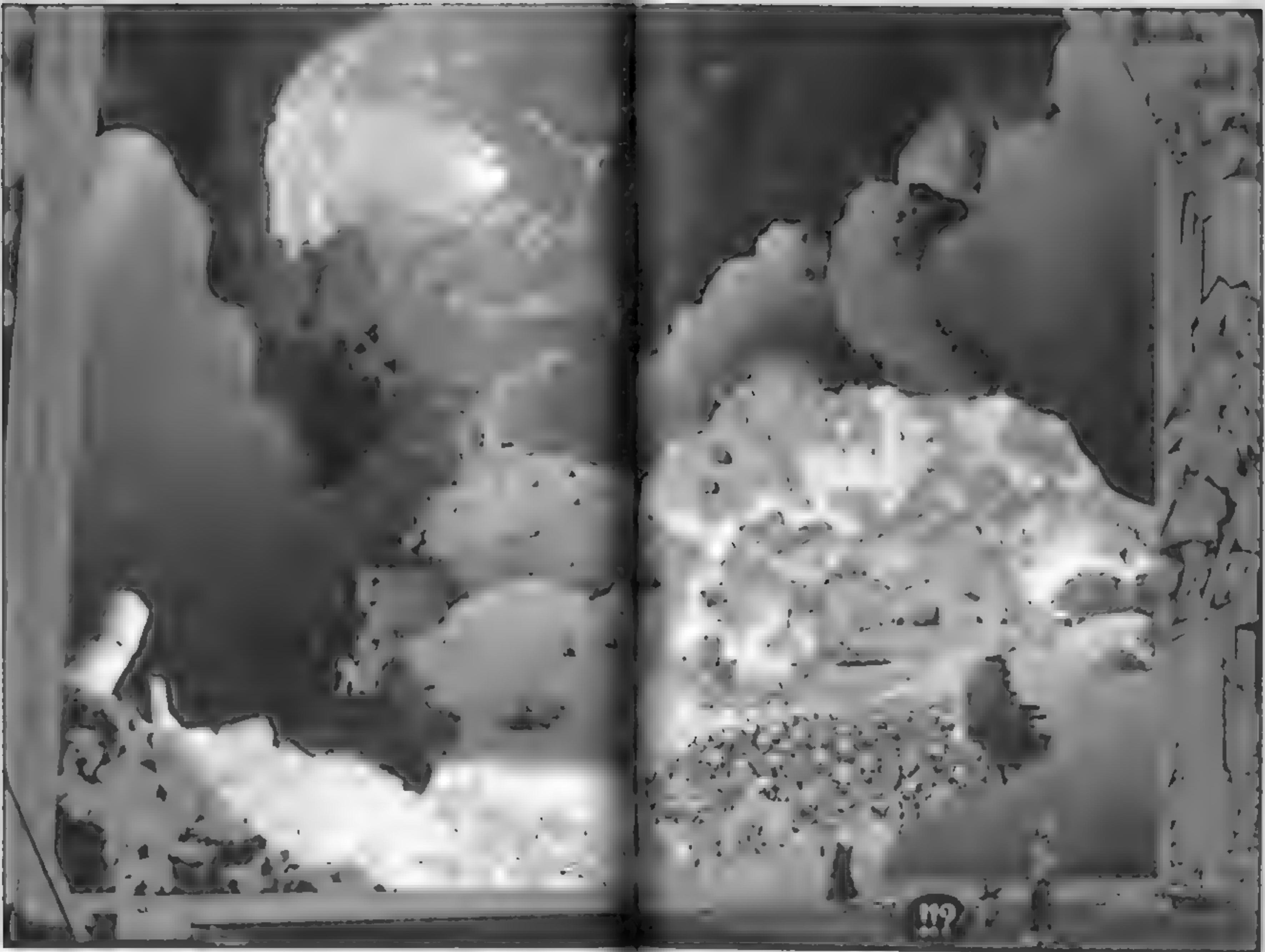
YEAH, TELL ME  
ABOUT IT. IT'S BAD  
ENOUGH THAT  
TWO OUT OF  
THREE OF US ARE  
ALREADY...

DID YOU  
FIND HER??

NOPE

OVER  
THERE!! ISN'T  
THAT HER?!!







HE USED THE NATURAL PATTERN OF THE MARBLE TO REPRESENT THE CLOUDS AND WATER...AND MERGED IT WITH HIS OWN PAINTING.

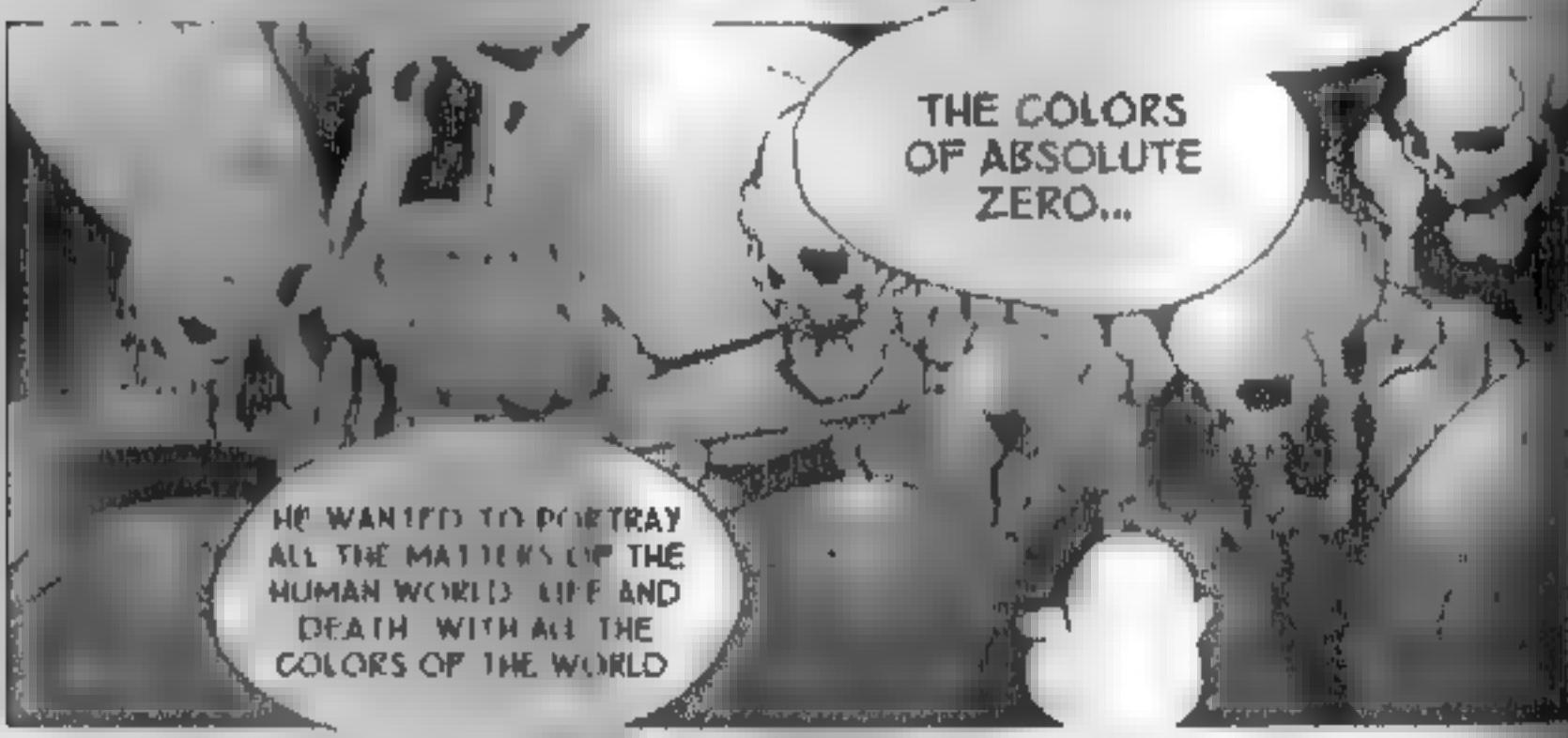
IT DEFINITELY GIVES YOU A FEELING OF ONE GARGANTUAN FEAST OF BOTH NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL COLOR.

NOW...THIS MUST BE LE CHEF D'OEUVRE INCONNU

THIS UNUSUALLY LARGE MARBLE WALL BECOMES HIS WORK...



IT'S AS IF ALL THE  
COLORS IN THE ENTIRE  
WORLD...ARE FROZEN  
RIGHT HERE.



THE COLORS  
OF ABSOLUTE  
ZERO...



HE WANTED TO PORTRAY  
ALL THE MATTERS OF THE  
HUMAN WORLD - LIFE AND  
DEATH - WITH ALL THE  
COLORS OF THE WORLD



OH...SOMETHING'S  
WRITTEN HERE.  
WHAT? MEME...  
MEM--



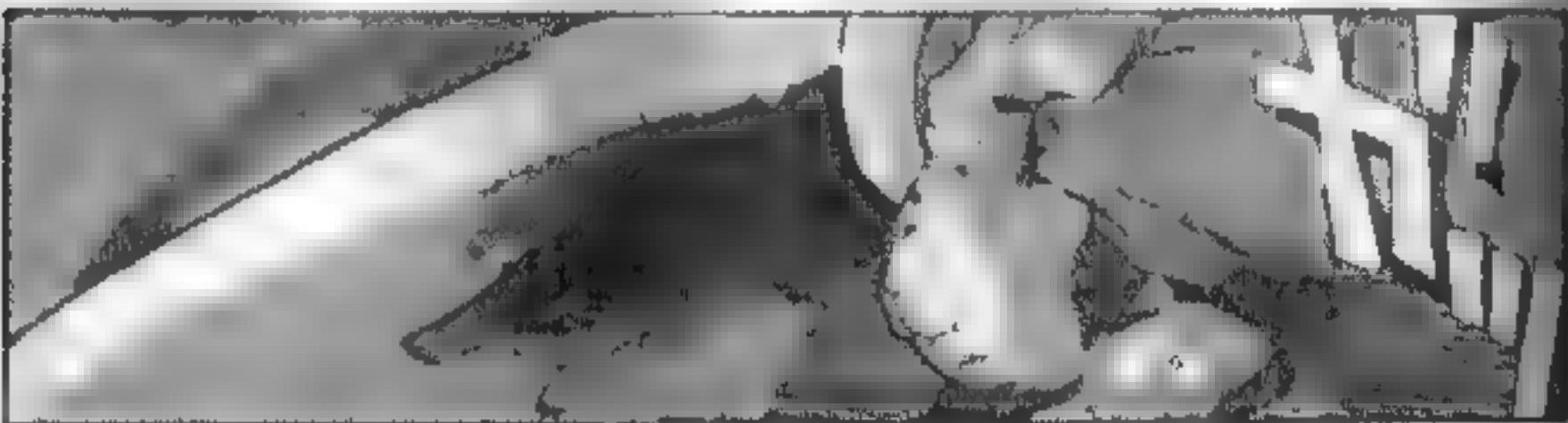
MEMENTO MORI,  
TO BE EXACT.



"MEMENTO MORI"

# KIR!!!



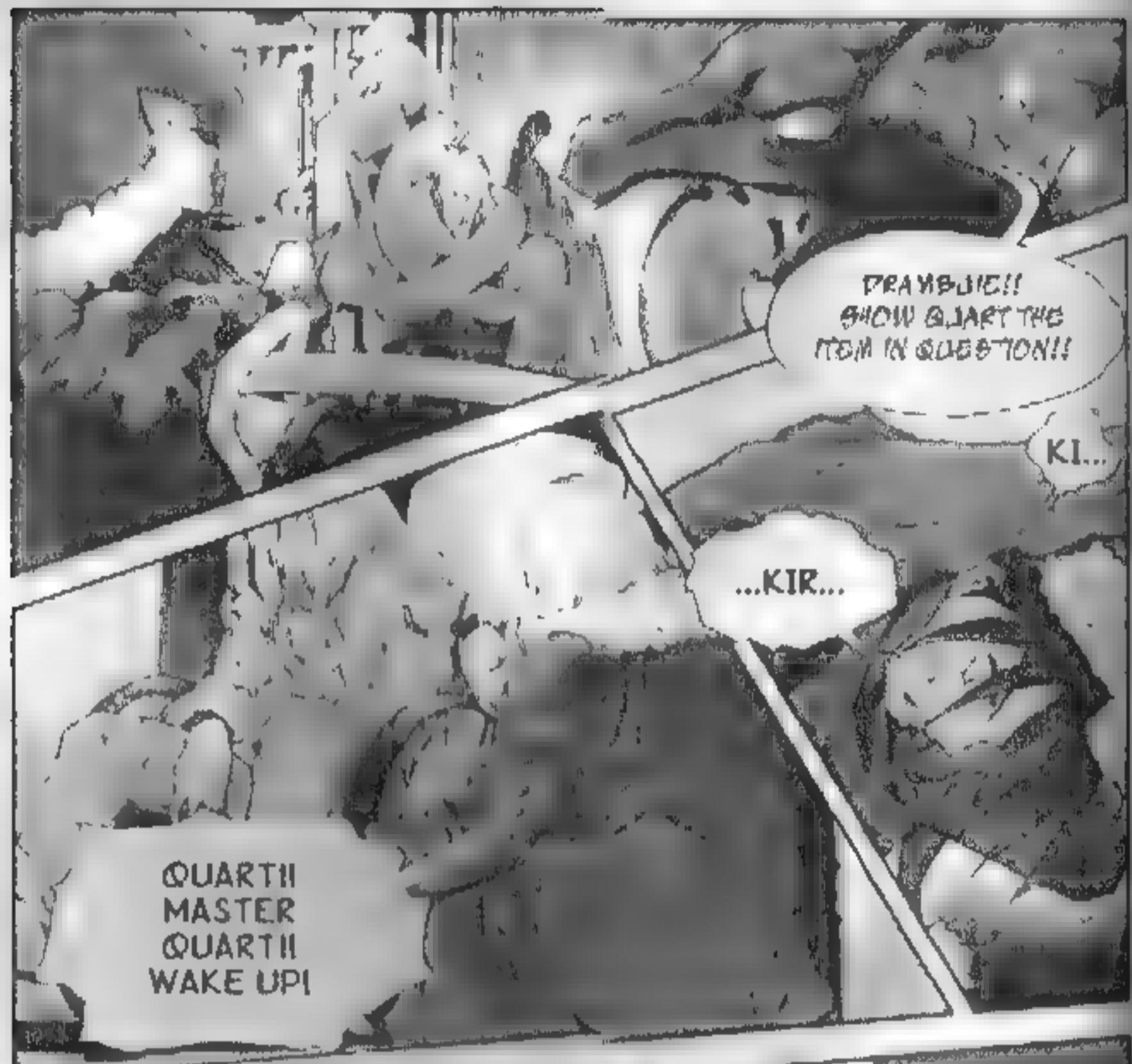


THE MASTER SEEMS  
TIRED FROM  
HIS JOURNEY...  
DOKTOR.

MASTER  
PAINTER?  
NO-  
KIIIRIN

キール  
ル

HAAAAAAWIII

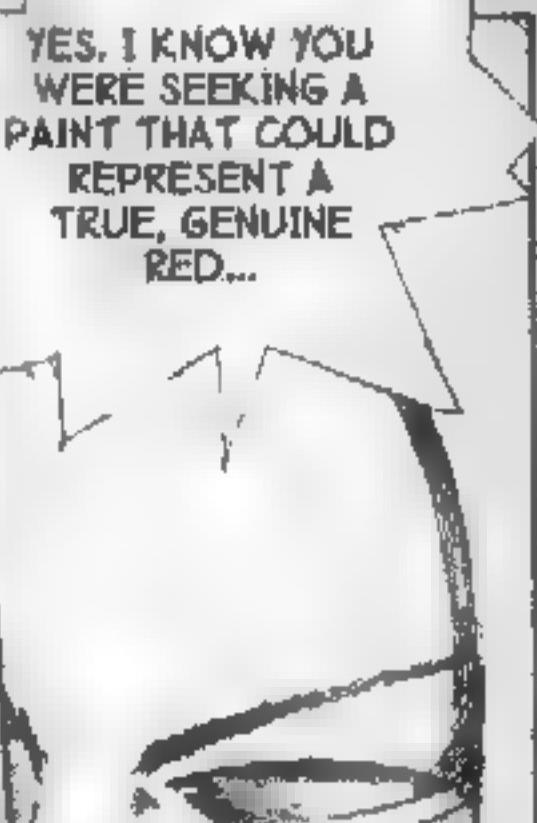




LE CHEF-D'OEUVRE INCONNU...?



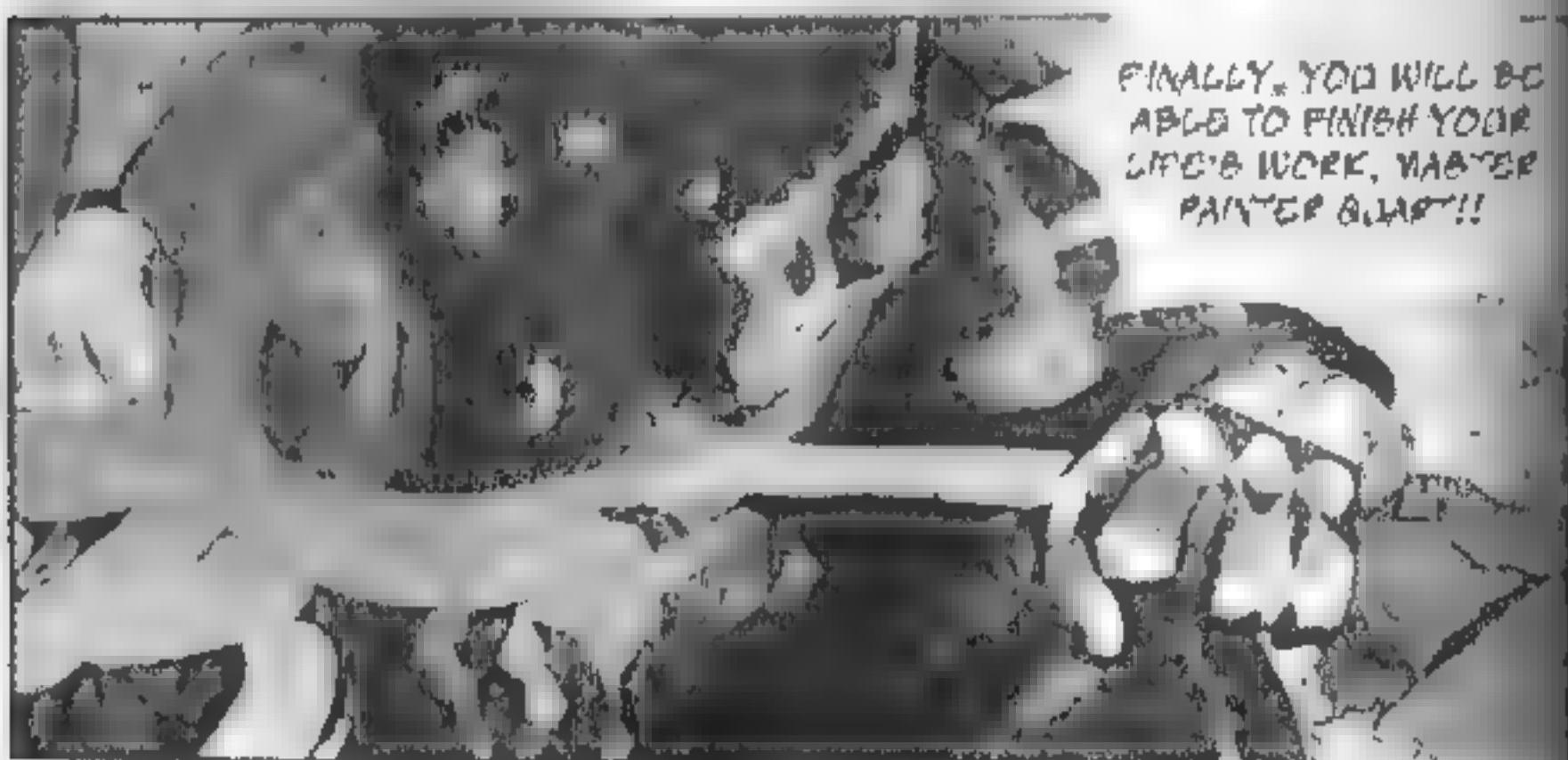
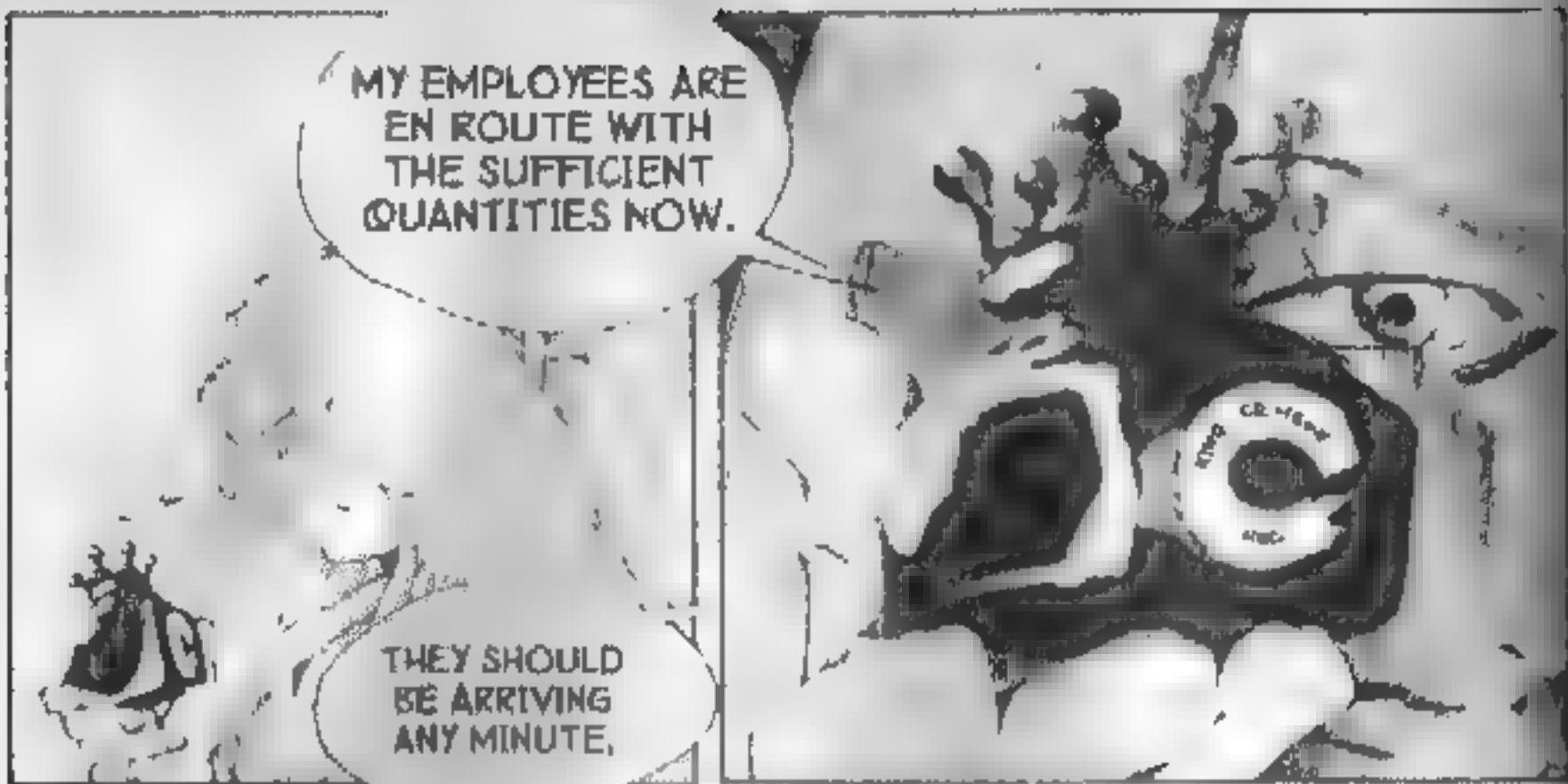
AND I ALSO KNOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN IN ARTIFICIAL HIBERNATION IN THE HOPES THAT ONE DAY IT WOULD EXIST.



YES, I KNOW YOU WERE SEEKING A PAINT THAT COULD REPRESENT A TRUE, GENUINE RED...



BUT YOUR SEARCH IS OVER! THE COLOR YOU'VE DESIRED FOR SO LONG... MAY JUST BE... THE ONE THAT WE'VE CREATED!!

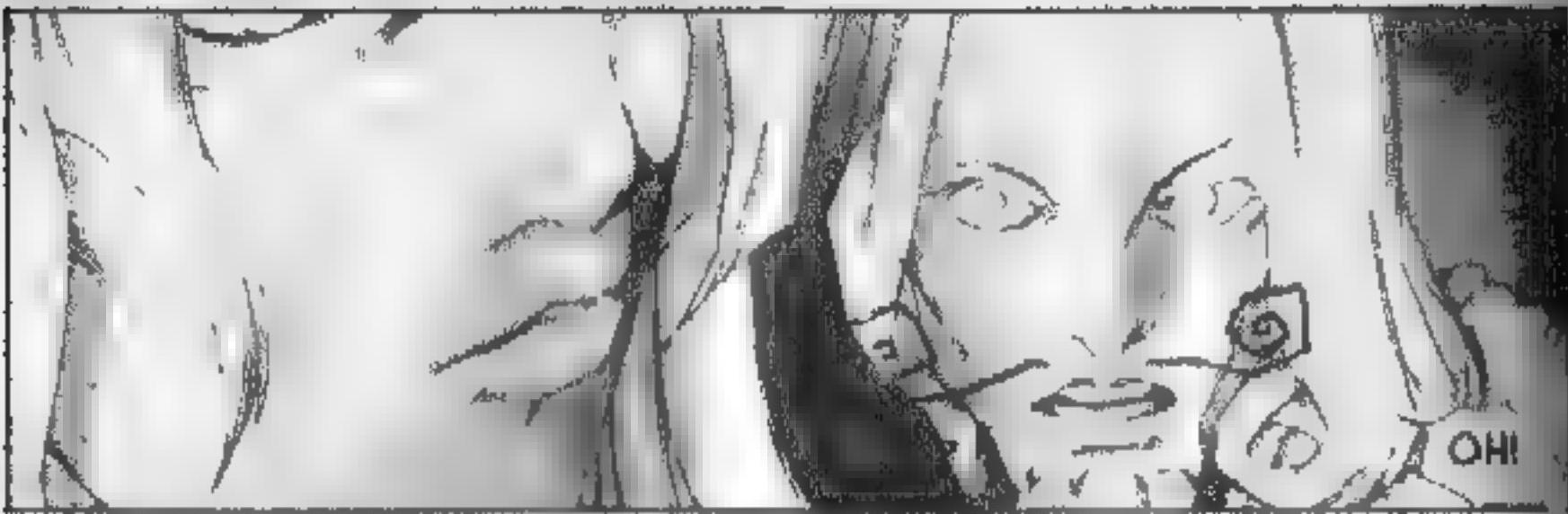


COME NOW,  
MASTER PAINTER!!  
THE TIME HAS  
COME...

I WILL NOT PAY  
A VERY HIGH PRICE...  
I FEAR IT WILL COST  
YOU MORE THAN IT'S  
WORTH

WHERE DID  
YOU GET THAT  
JEWEL, BOY!!

...FOR LG CHEF  
DOCKURE INCONDU  
TO OPEN ITS DOORS TO  
THE WORLD!!!



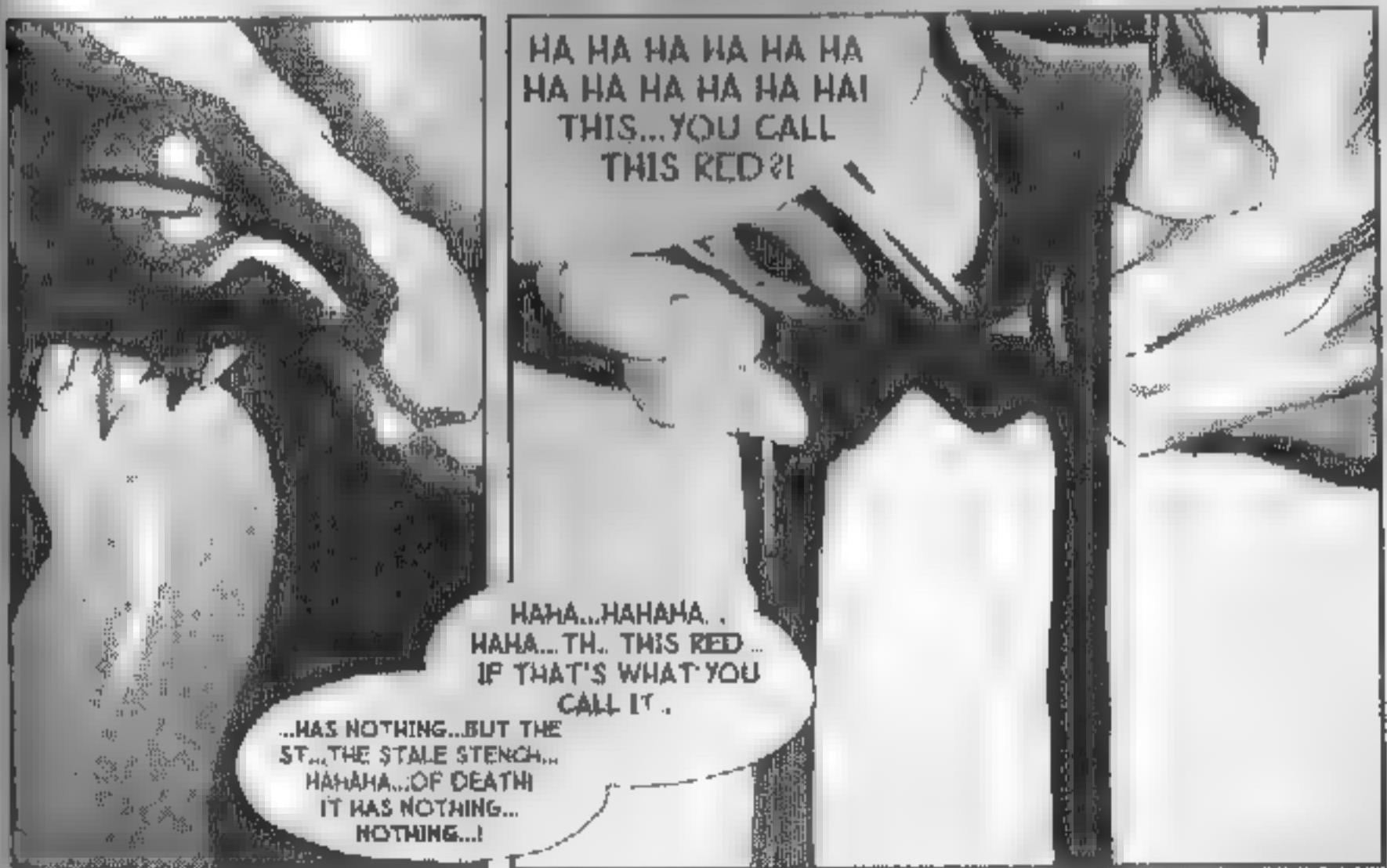
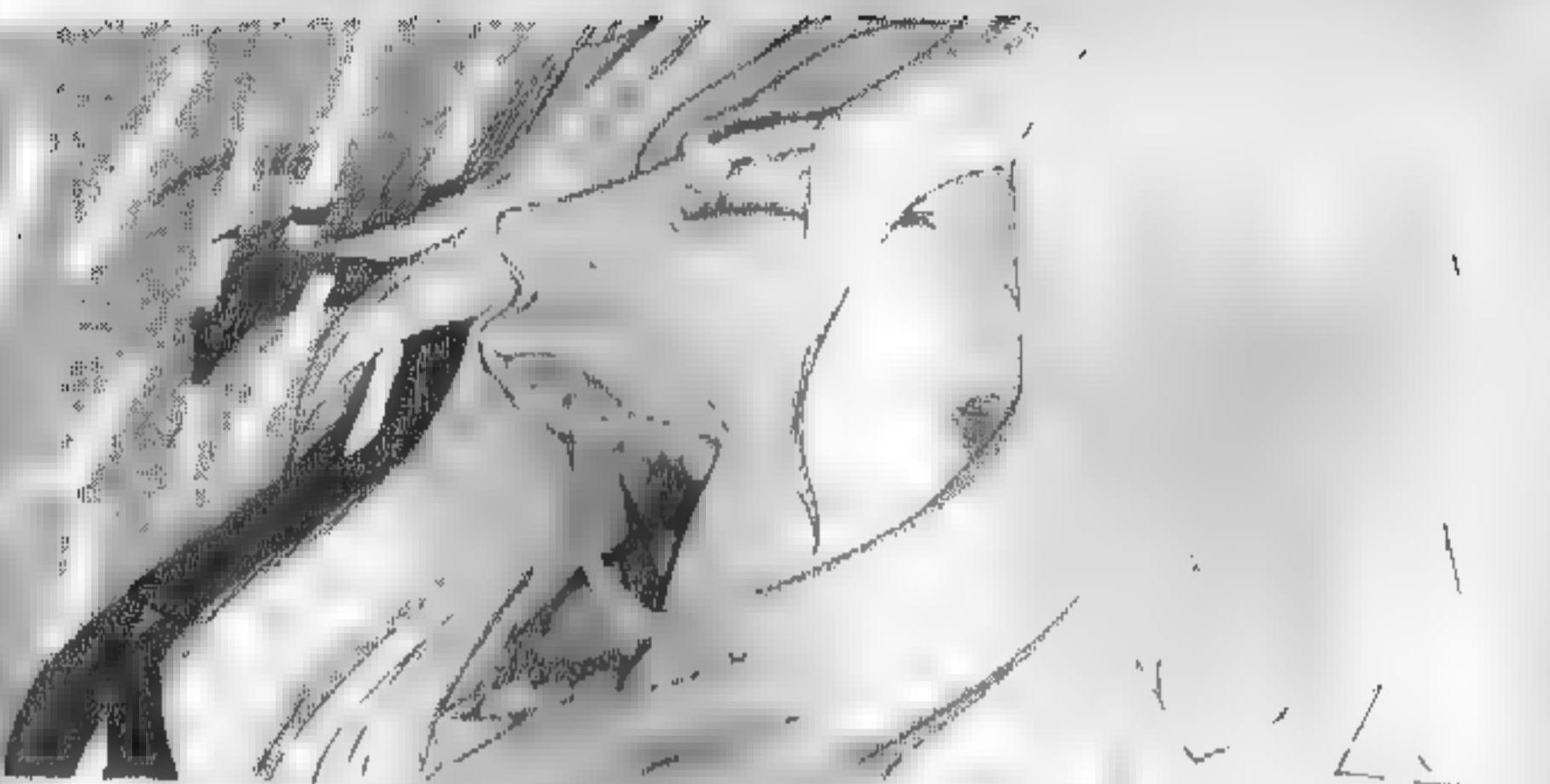
GOOD WORK,  
DOKTOR!!!

THE MASTER  
STIRSH!

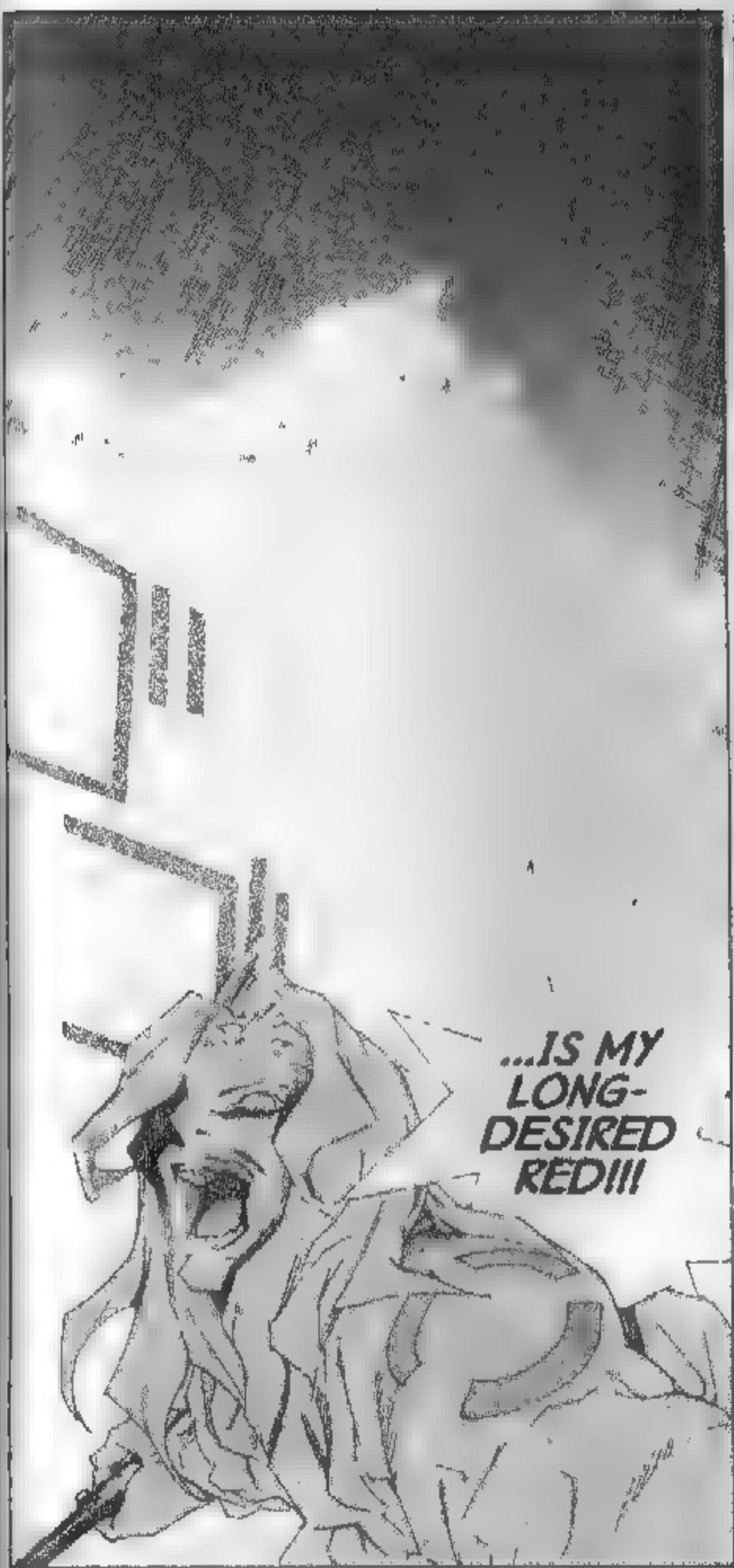
...HU  
HU HU  
HU HU...

HU...

...HU  
HU HU...









Visit our website at [www.mangafox.com](http://www.mangafox.com) to view this image in its original form.

This image is hosted at mangafox.com, we take no credit for the creation or editing of this image.

All credits go to the appropriate parties involved in the creation or editing of this image.

**WITH  
THIS, IT'S  
FINISHED...**

**IT'S  
FINISHED...**



WHAT IN  
THE BLAZES  
OF HELL  
ARE YOU  
DOING!!!



THIS IS THE ONLY  
REAL RED, FIRE!  
YOU SEE? I WAS A POOL  
TO THINK I COULD FIND  
ITS EQUAL...

SLIP

ACQUAINTED

CLANG

...A PIGMENT EQUIVALENT  
TO THIS BREATHTAKING  
FORCE OF NATURE!!!!

WELL, IF IT'S  
IMPOSSIBLE ON  
EARTH...I'LL JUST  
HAVE TO COMPLETE  
MY WORK IN  
HEAVEN...HU HU...



NEVER  
GIVE UP  
WILL TO SUCCE-  
SSFUL ROAD  
GOES VAI

BLU



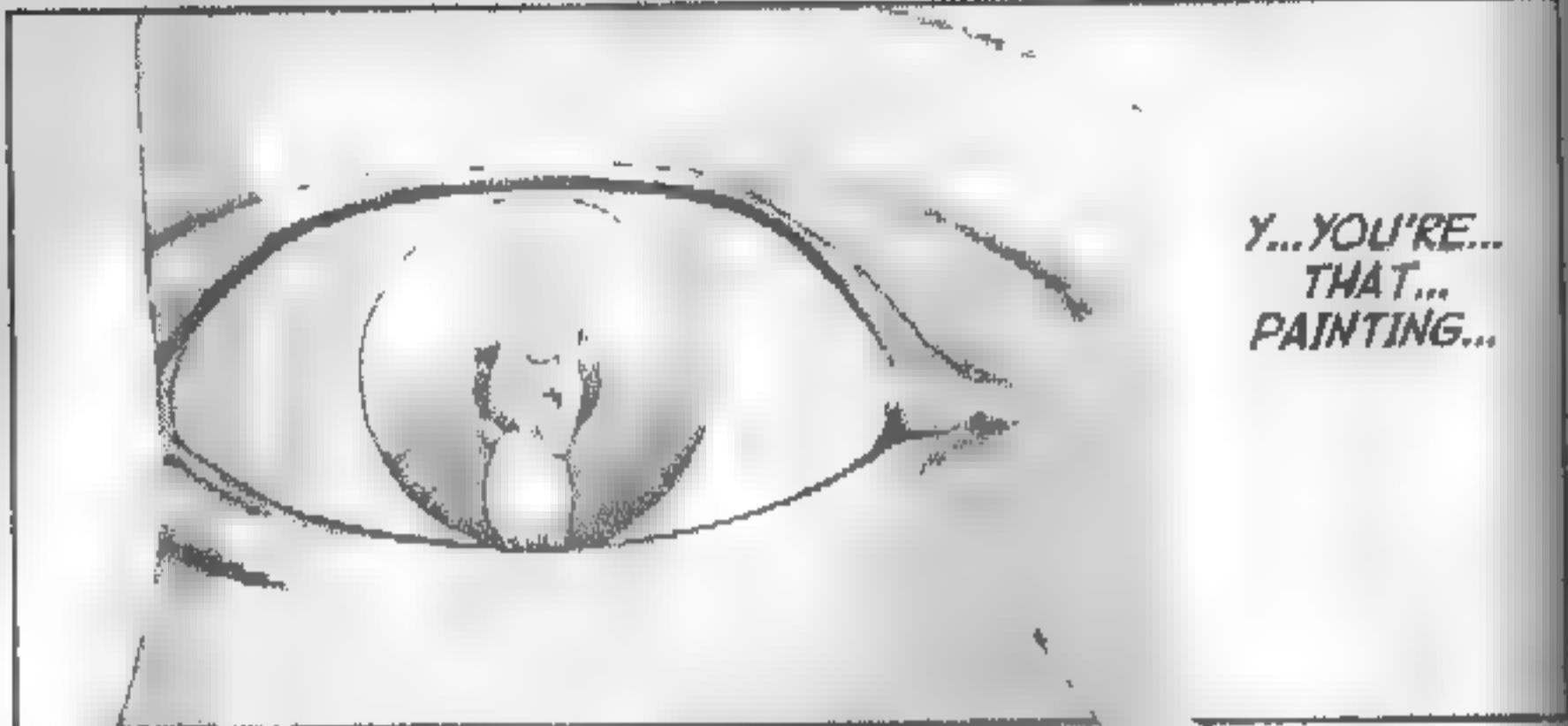
AY,  
"MAY YOU  
FIGHTER..."



HAHAHAHAI YESH  
LOOK AT HER, O'  
GREAT MASTER!!!

"...ONE  
YEST  
IMPORTANT  
FOR A CO  
ROCKIN'





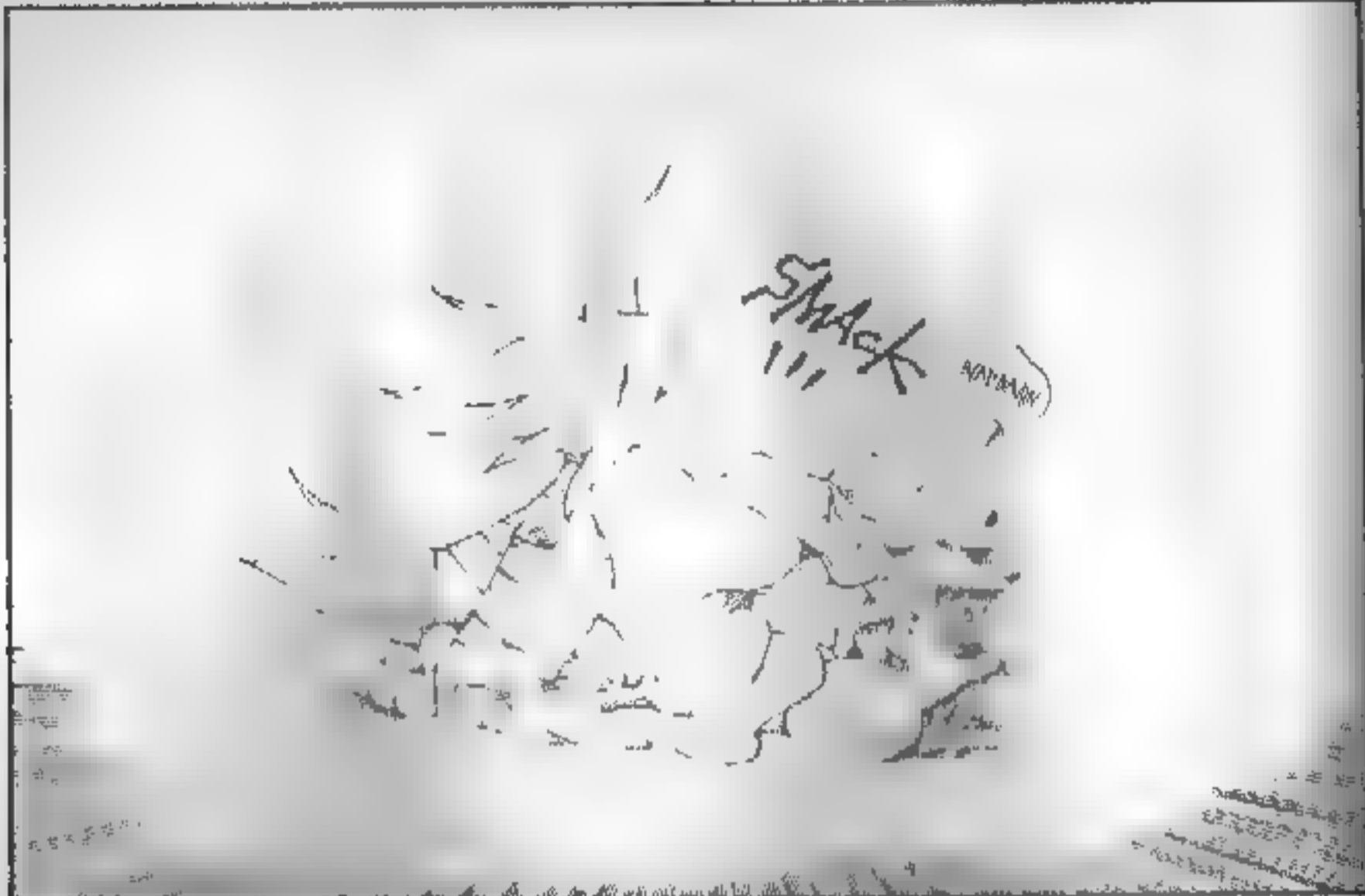
KISS ME, YOU  
FOOL!



THIS ISN'T BY  
ANY CHANCE...A  
FAREWELL KISS.  
IS IT ...?

WHA-WHA-  
WHA?!  
WHAT A  
THING TO  
SAY AT A  
TIME LIKE  
THIS, YOU  
LECHEROUS  
BIRD!!! DO  
YOU HAVE  
ANY IDEA--

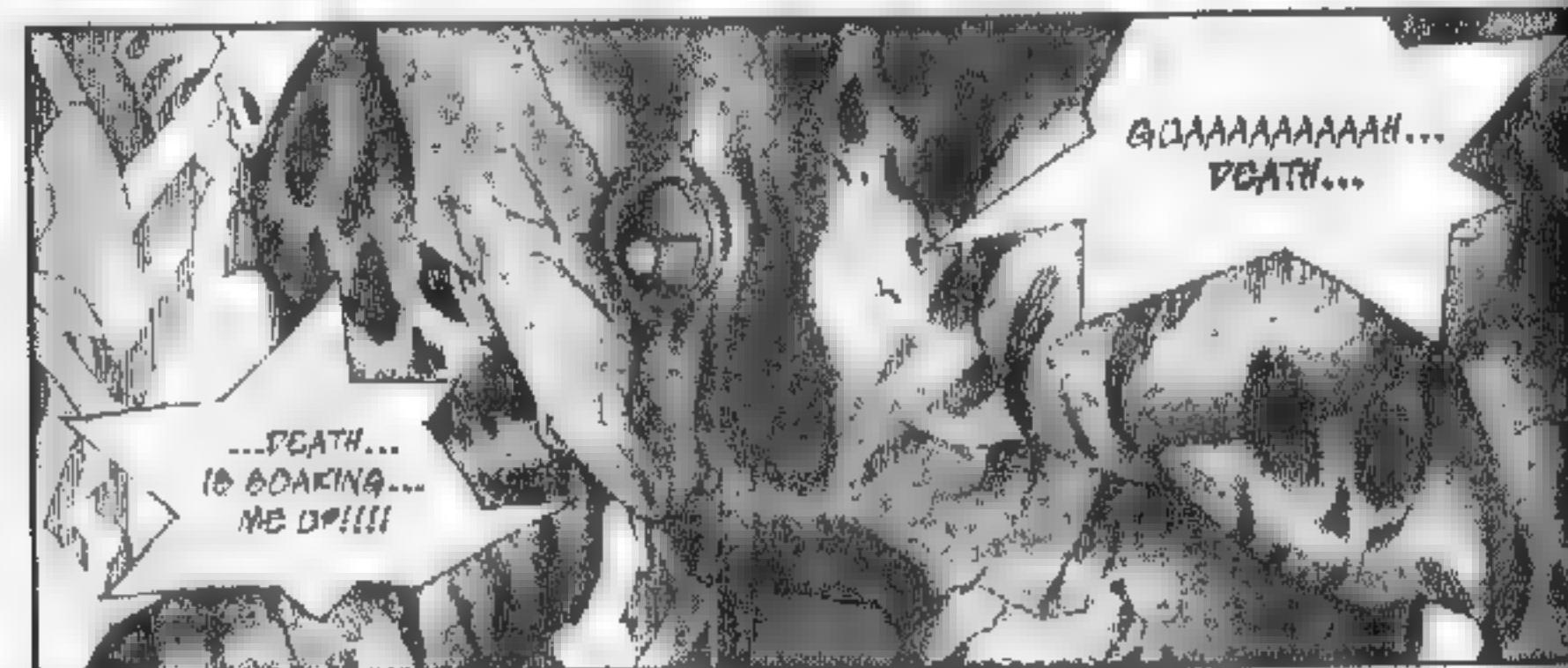
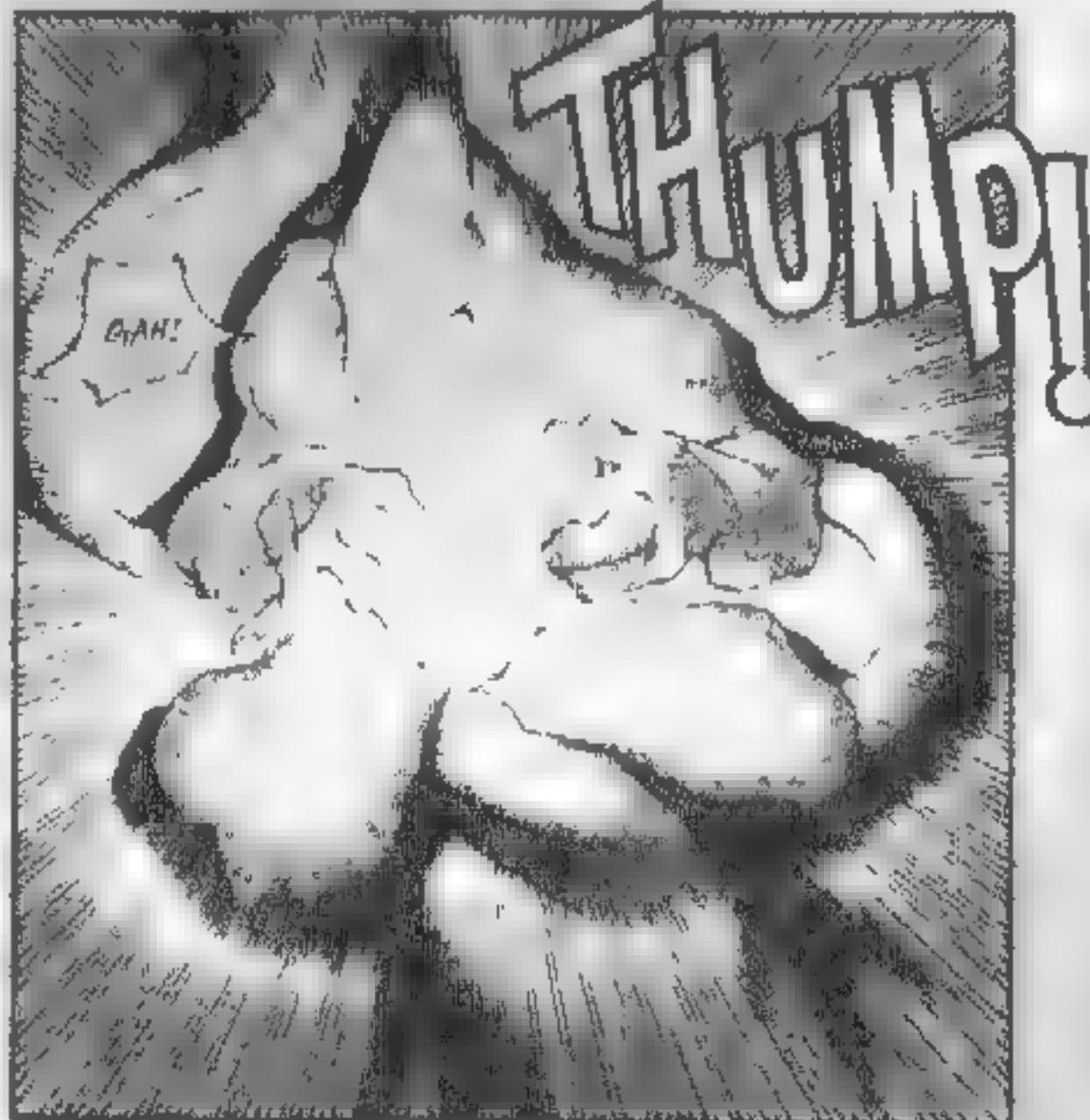
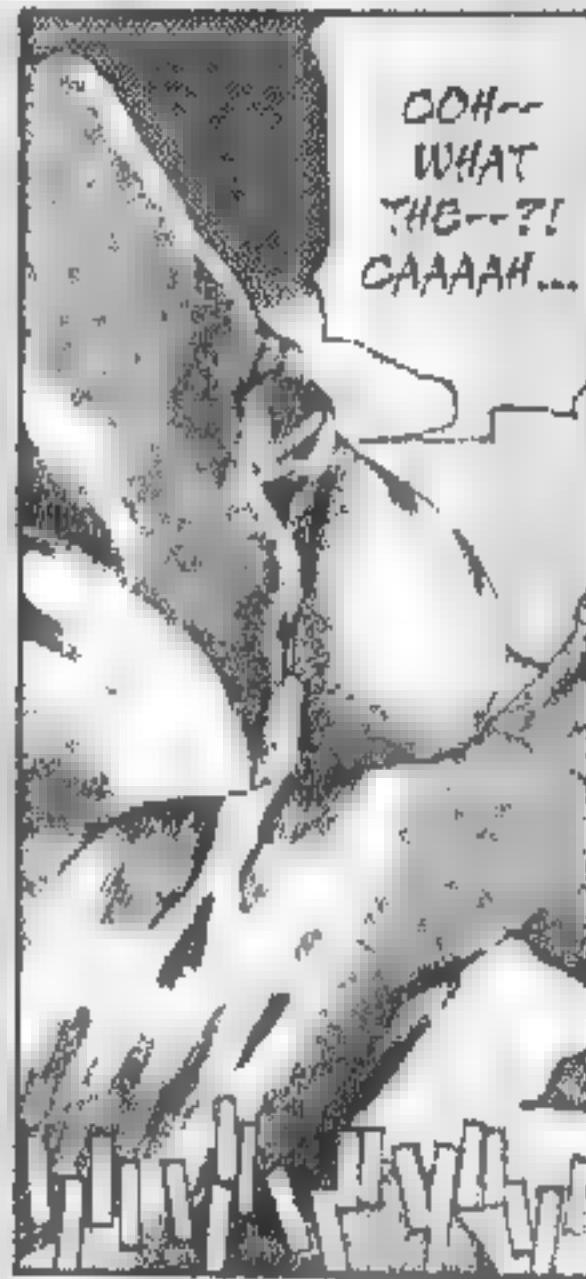
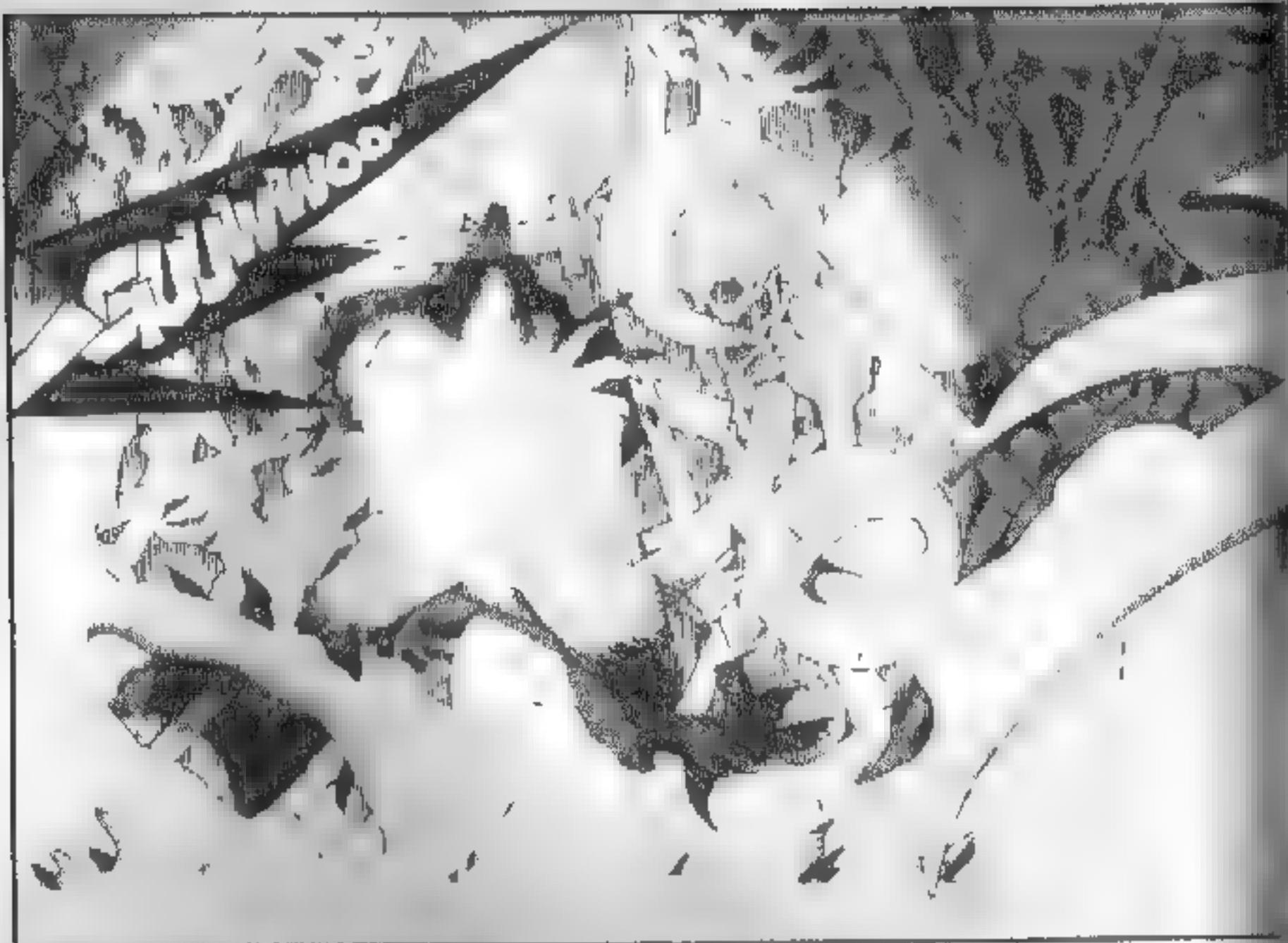


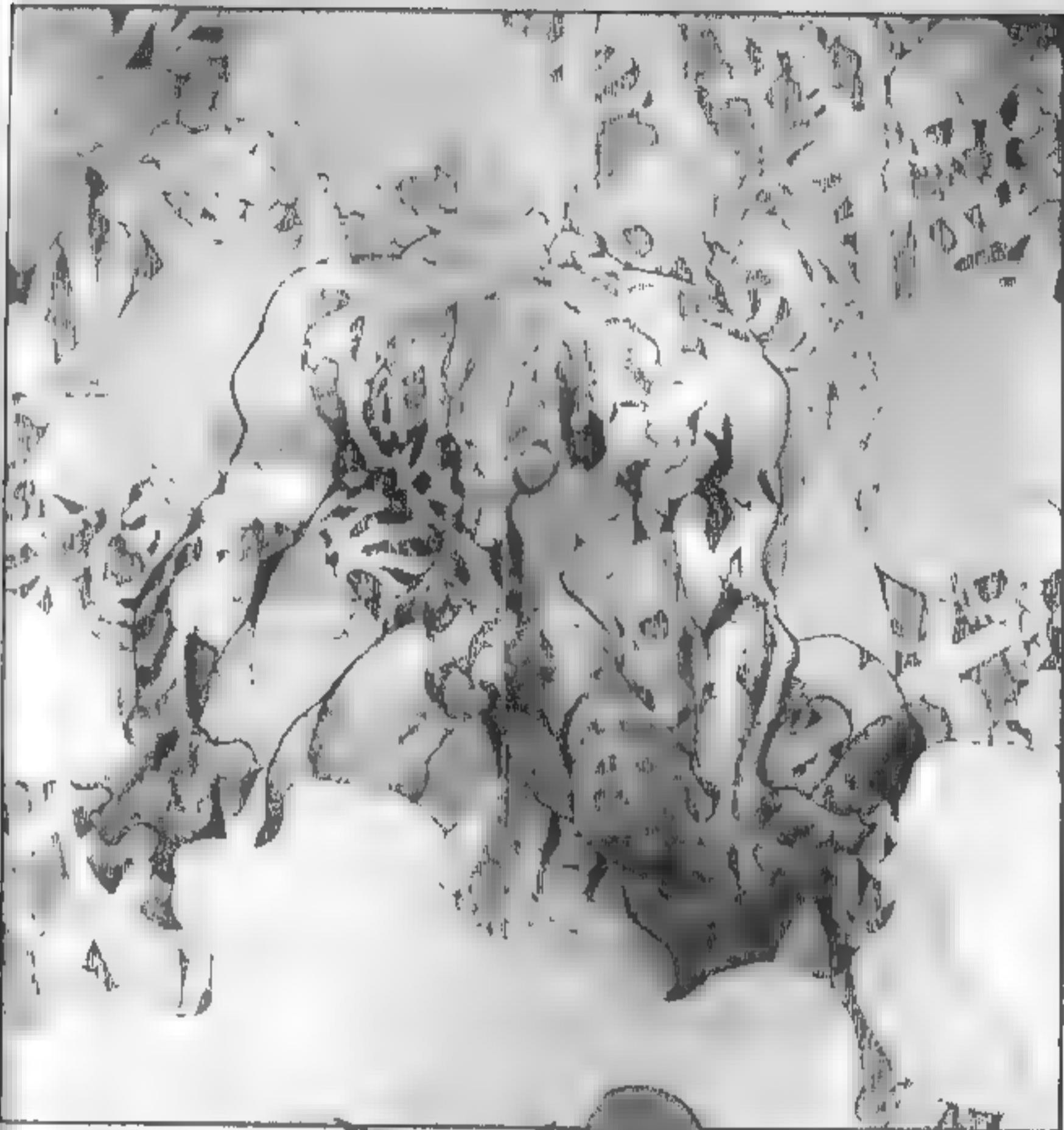


I FEEL  
FUNNY

AH... I  
ACCEPT THIS  
GRATEFULLY,  
KIR.



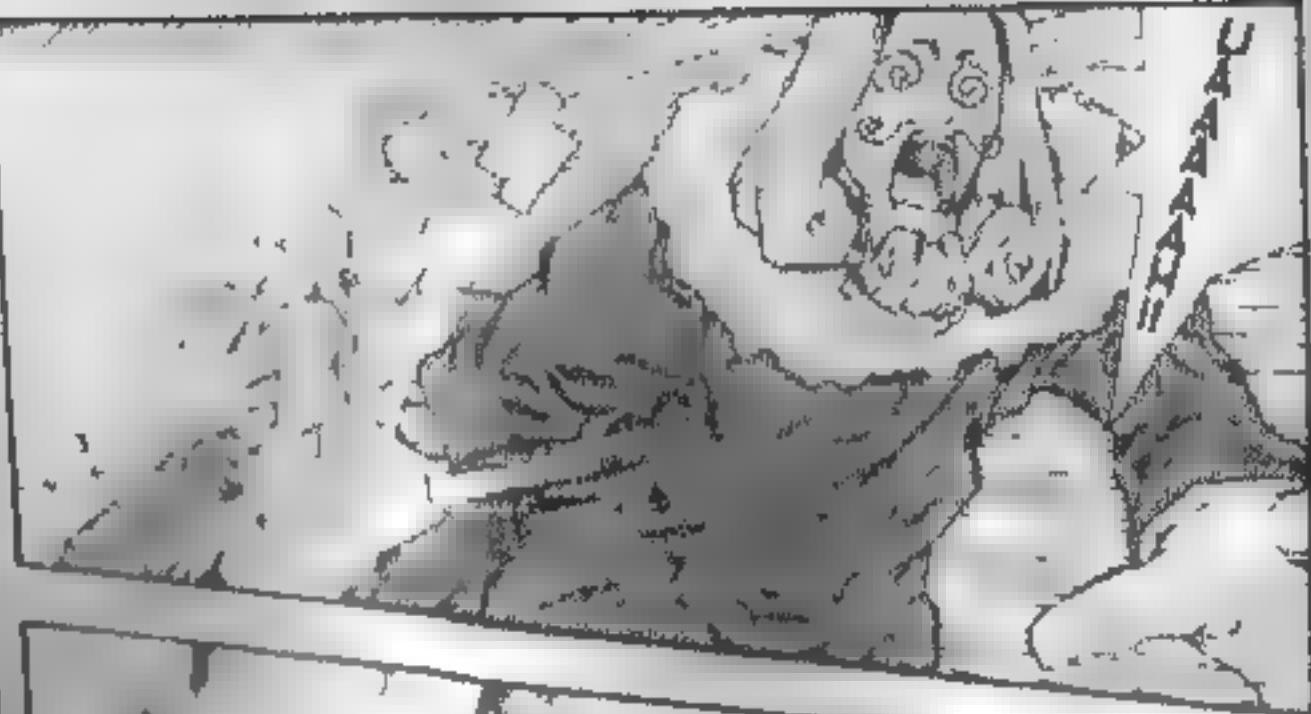




AS YOU  
SAY "MEMENTO  
MORI" DOKTOR

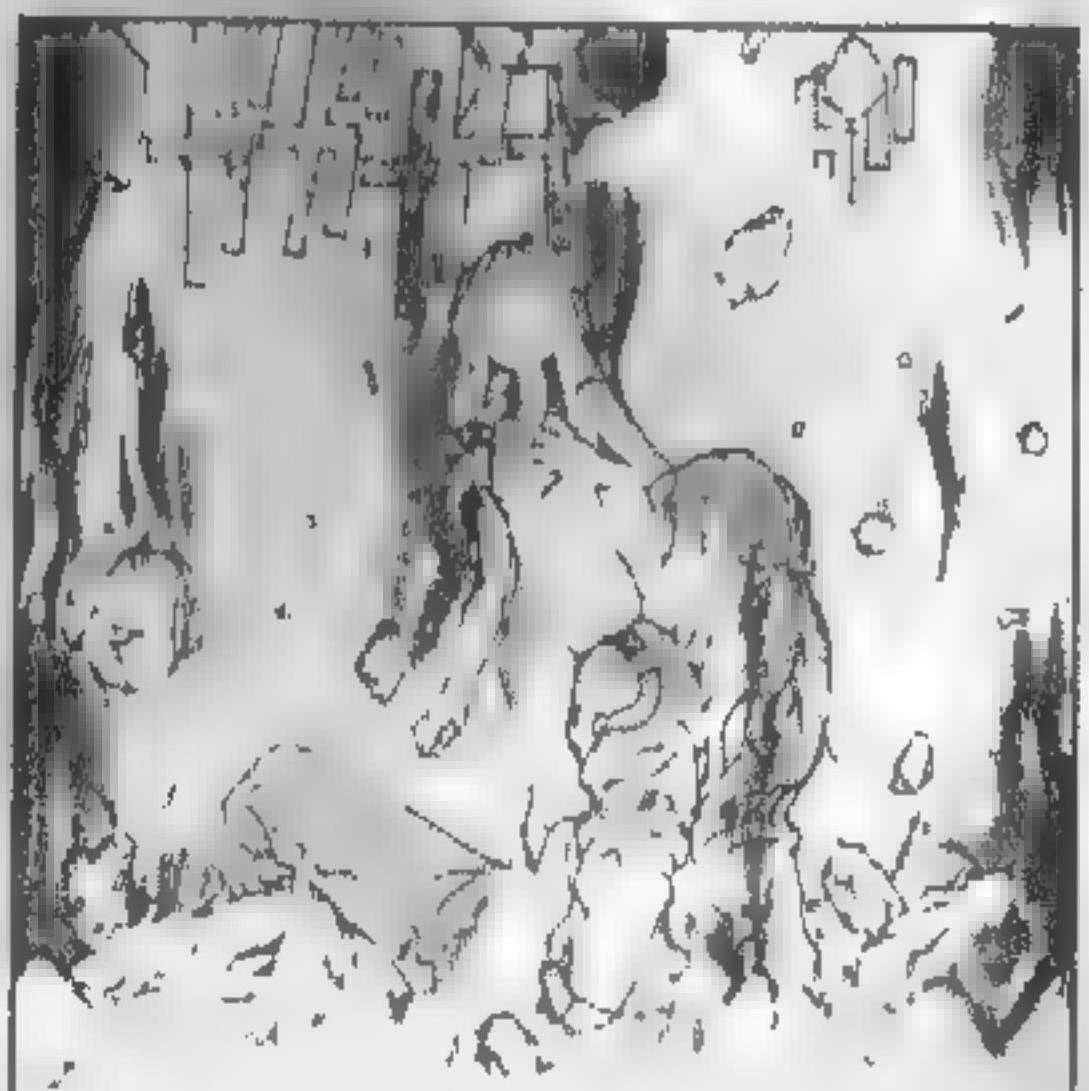
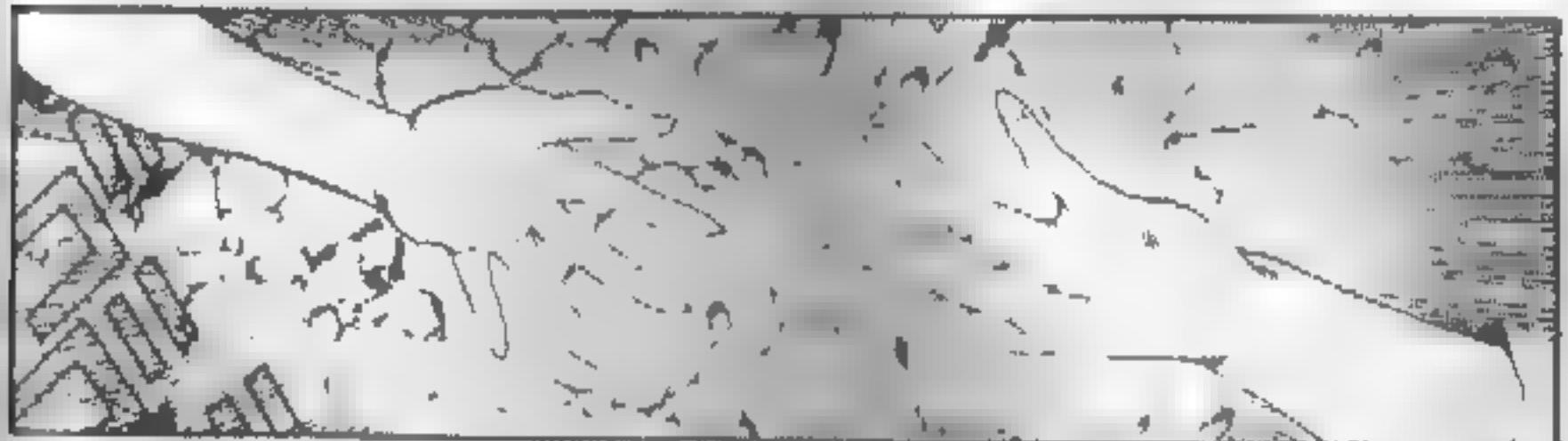
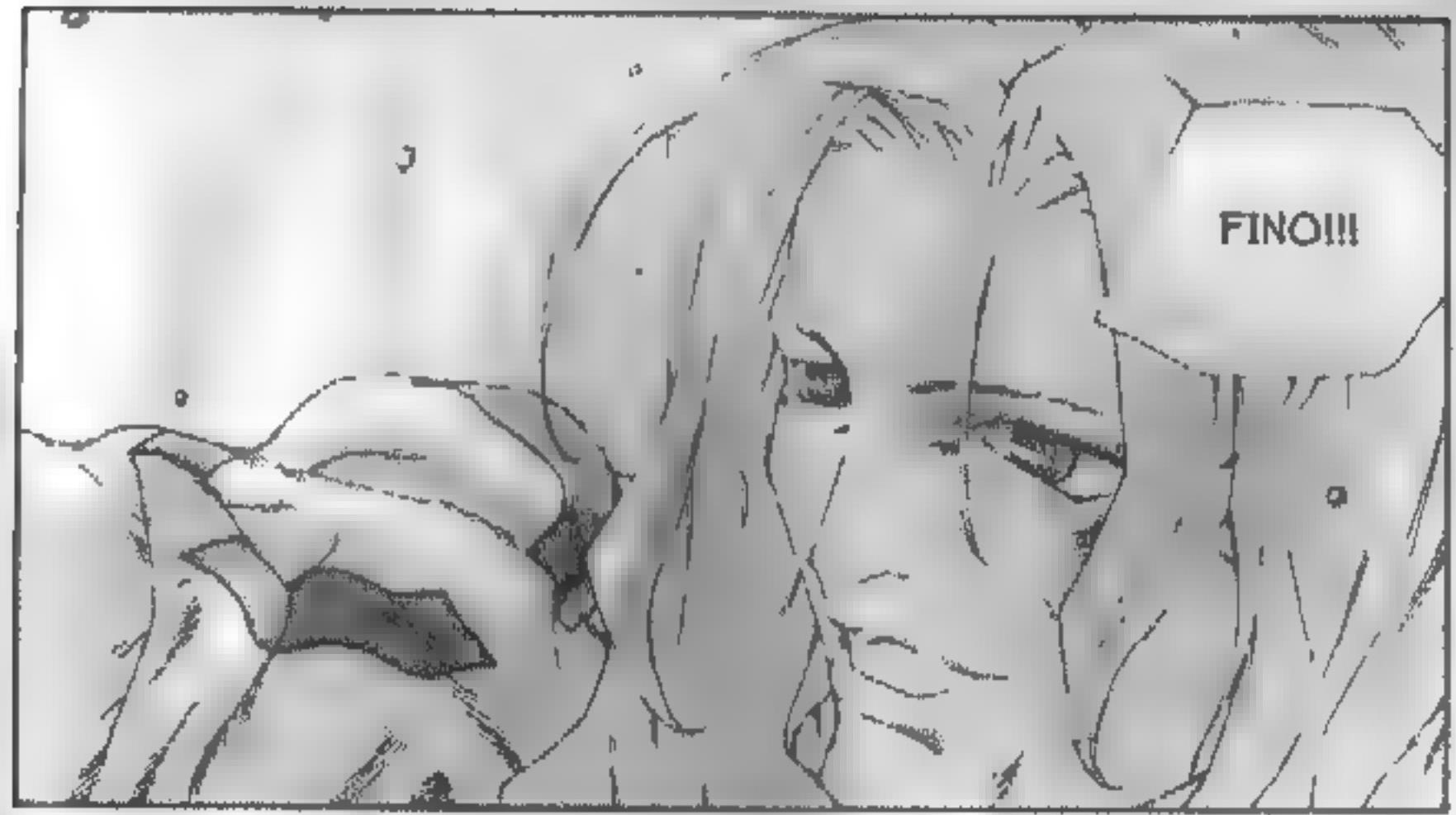


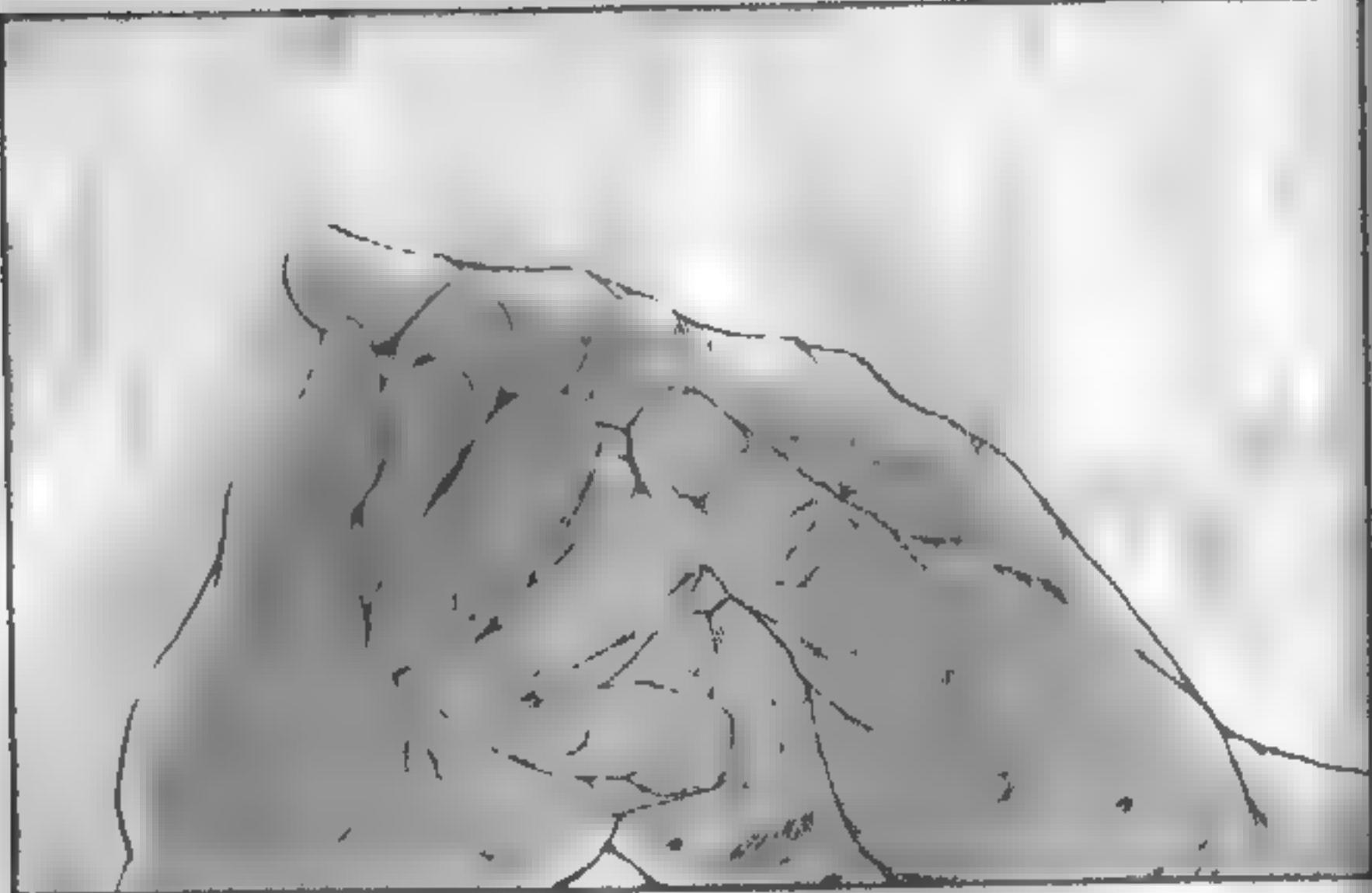
D-DAD!!!



OH...FINO...  
FINO.







JUST SET  
OUT ON  
ANOTHER  
JOURNEY.



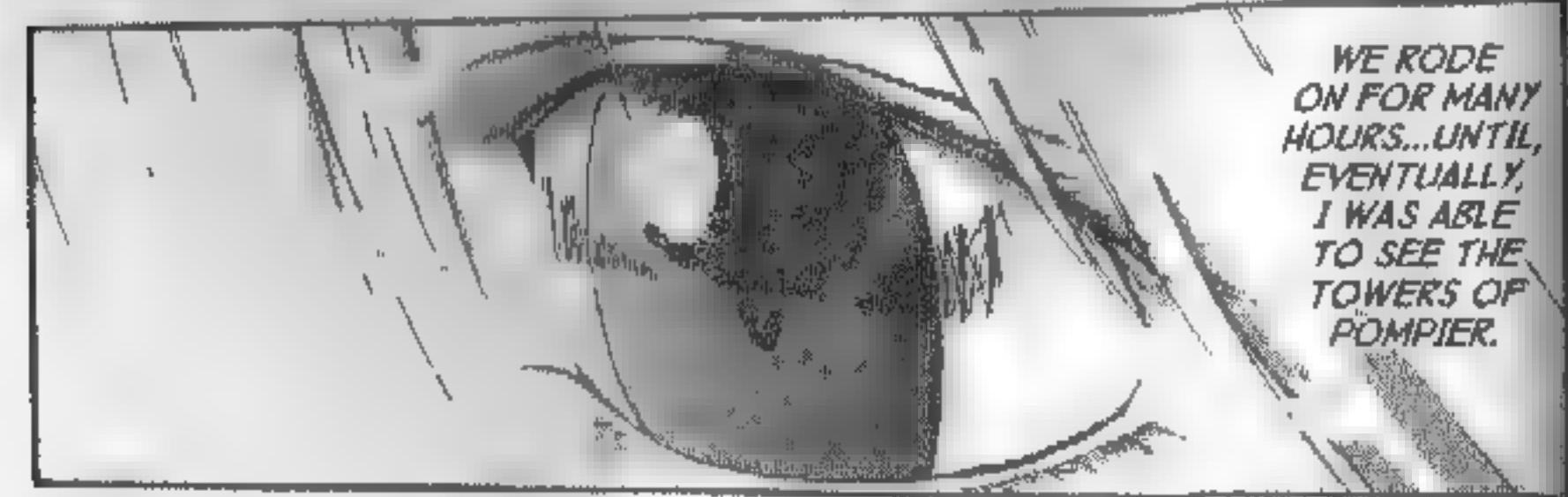
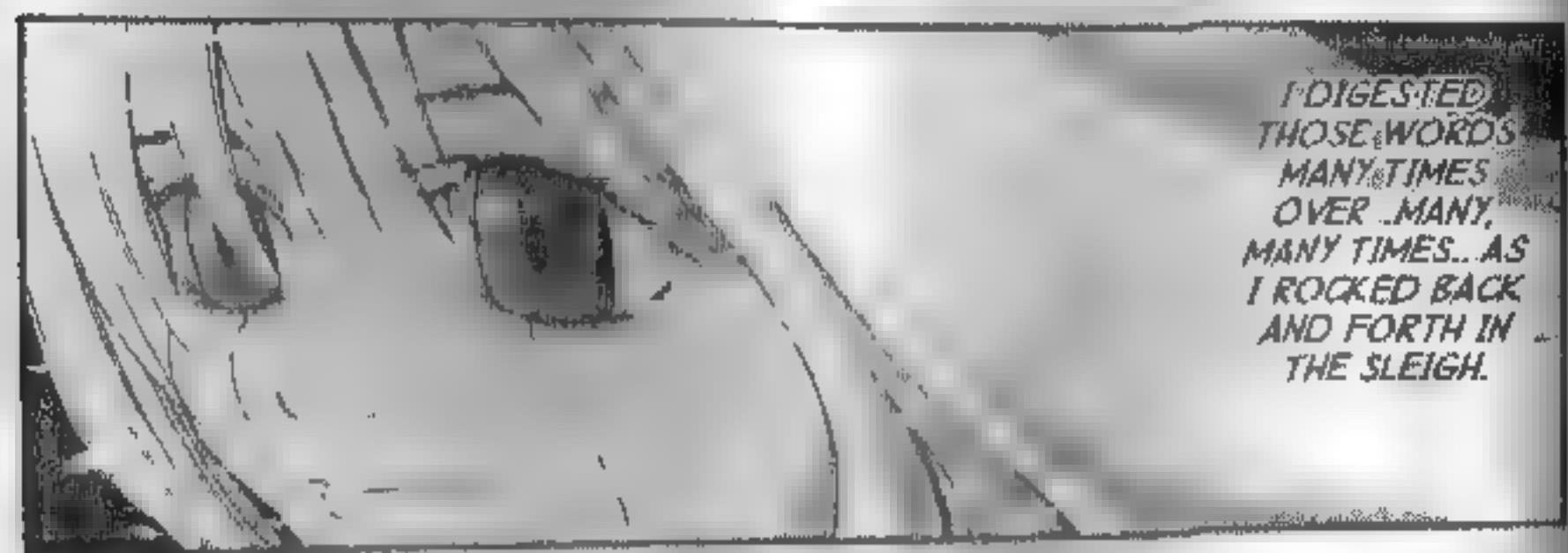
FIND YOUR  
FATHER  
IS STILL  
ALIVE...!

DADI  
DADI

NO!!  
DAD'S  
STILL--!!

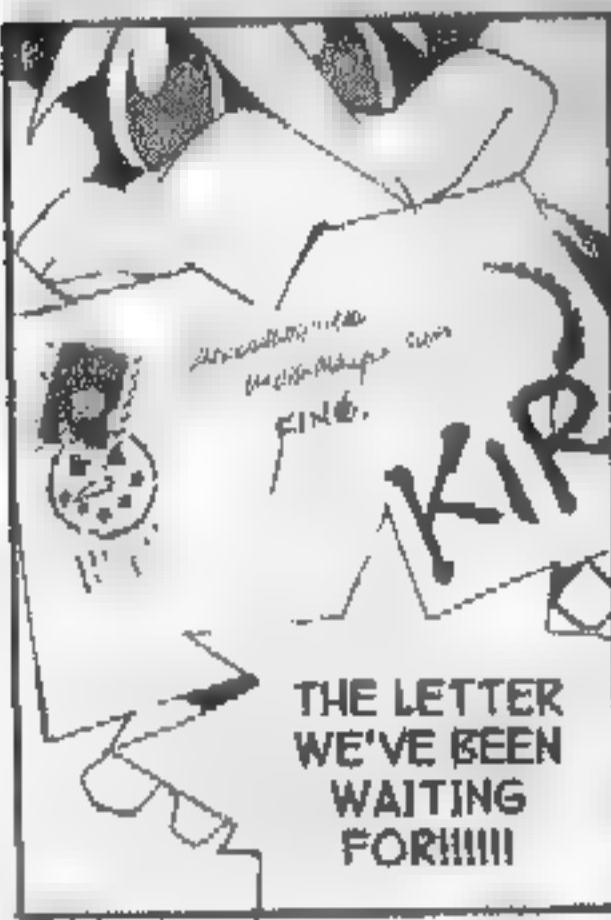
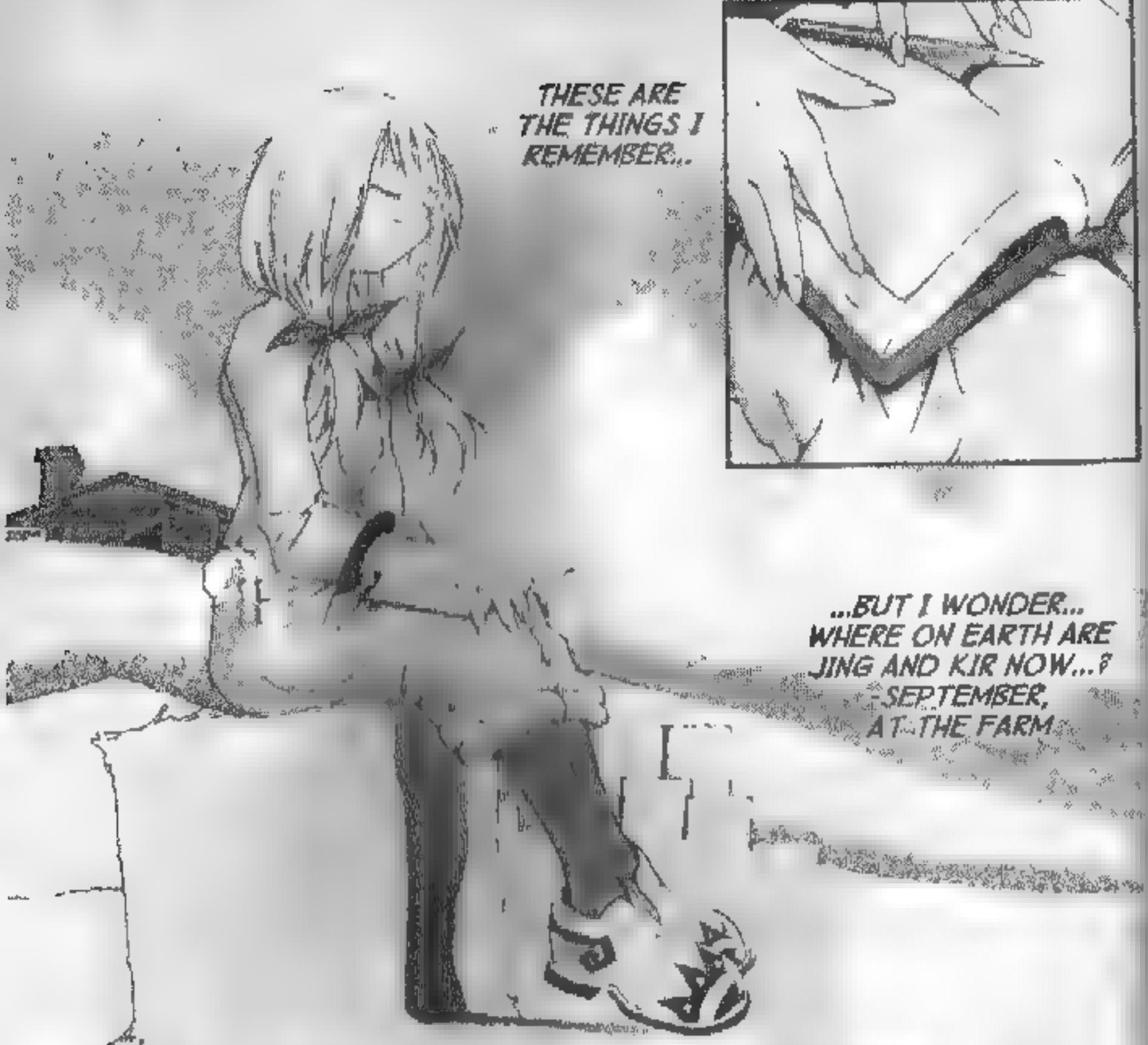


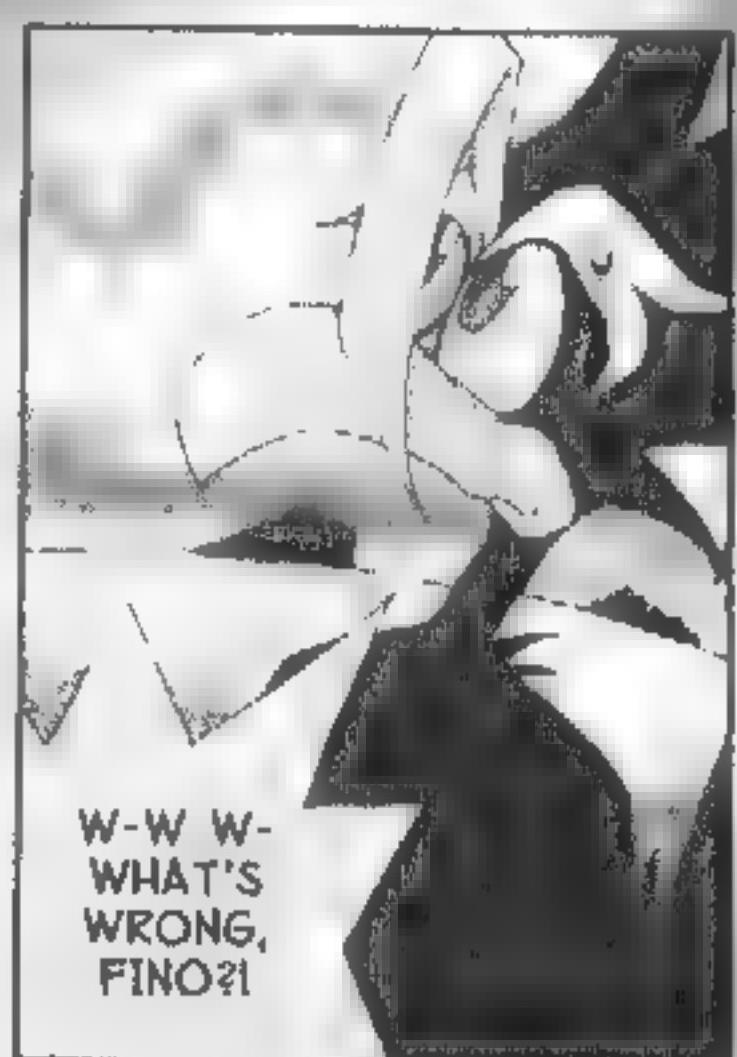
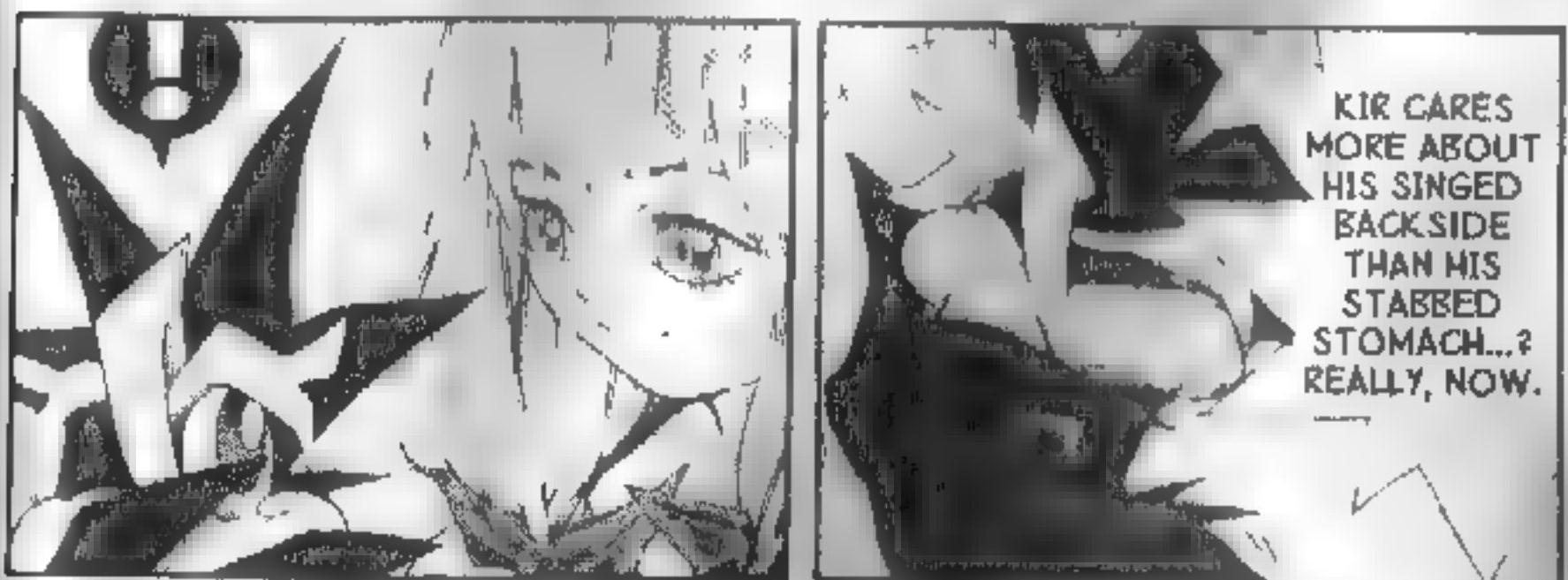
I HAVE A FEELING  
THAT NEXT TIME  
YOU MEET, HE'LL BE  
JUST A LITTLE BIT  
AHEAD OF YOU.

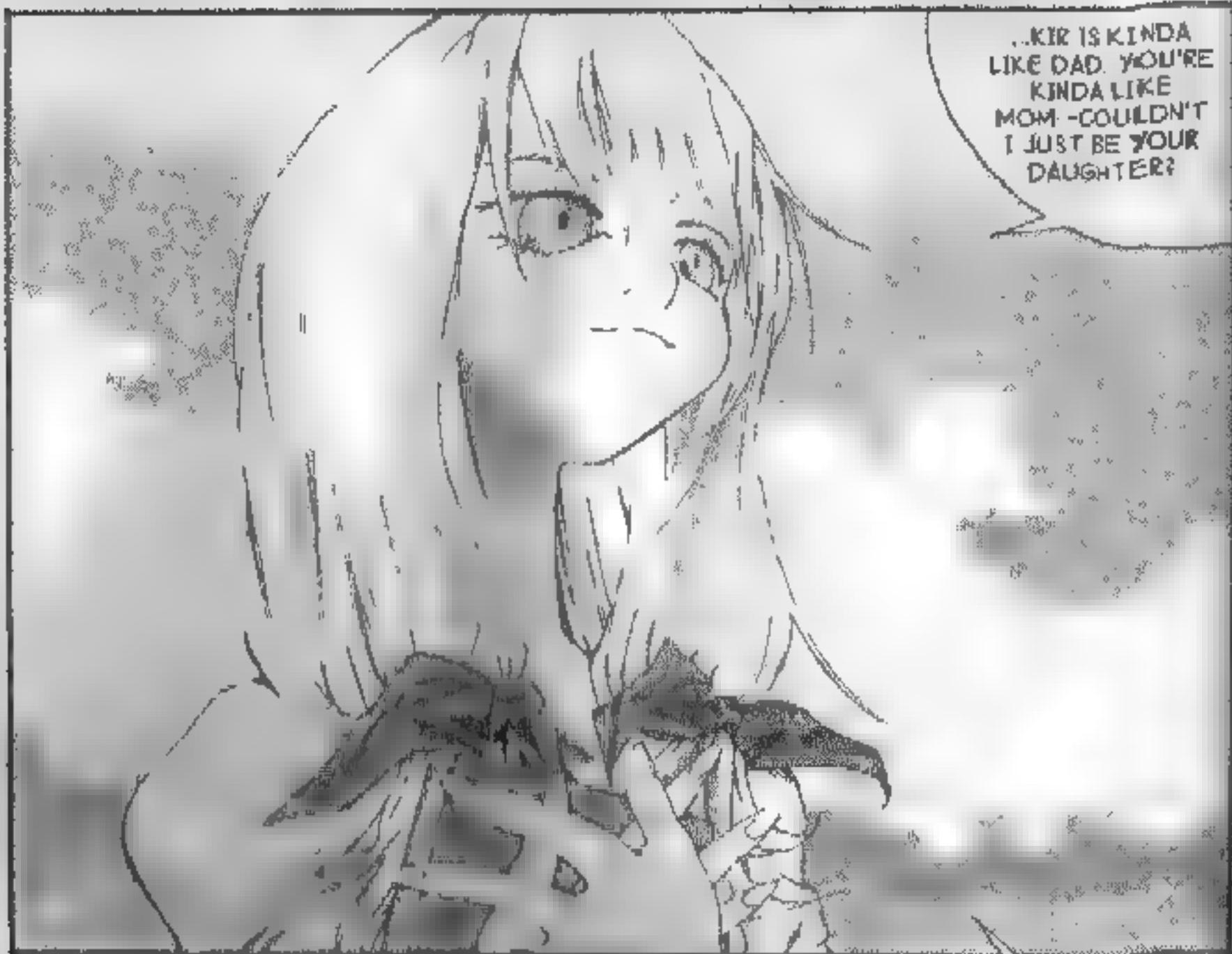


*color town  
apple  
peach*

*IF THE ENTIRE  
COUNTRY IS  
MOURNING.*







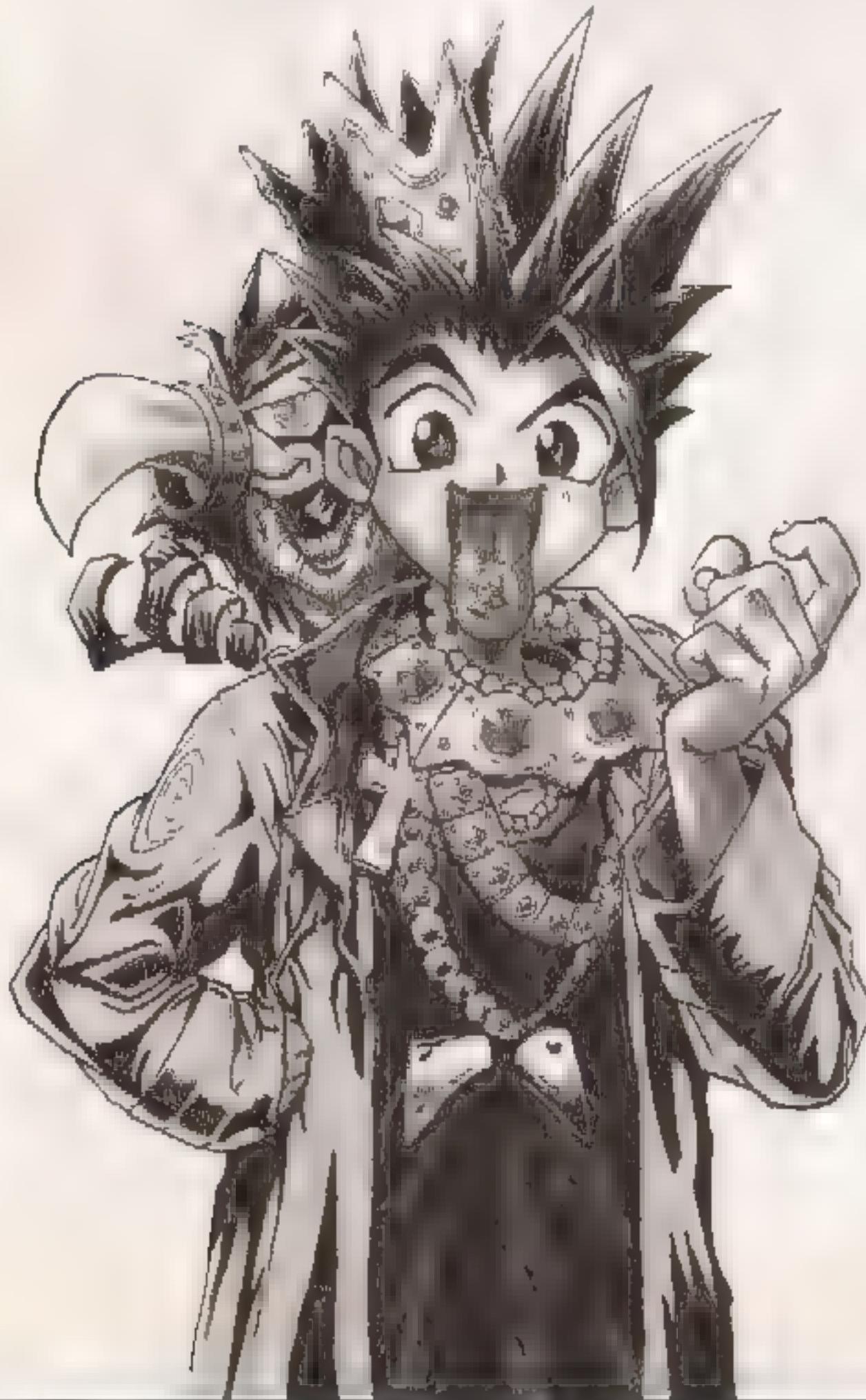
LIKE A PICTURE  
DRAWN BY NATURE ON  
A CANVAS OF PURE,  
BLUE SKY...

...IT FEELS SO  
GOOD.

one of the greatest stories to begin and end.  
The Legend of Beowulf - Twilight Tales

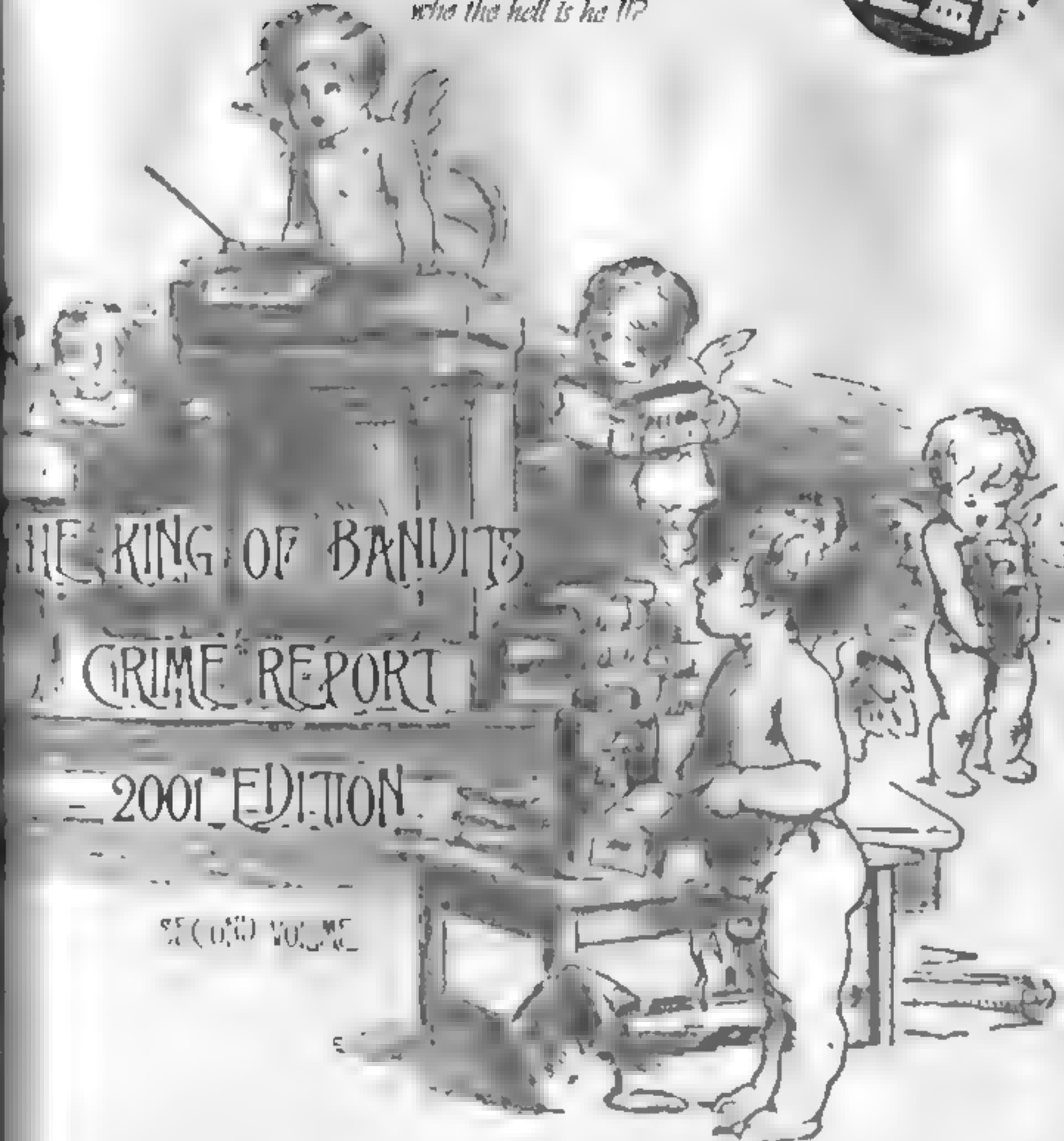
O  
nce upon a midnight dreary, a thief named Jing was weak and weary.  
Many strange and forgotten lands he did traverse and explore.  
His companion, was a bird named Kir, his black wings a-flapping.  
While Jing doffed nearly napping, Kir saw booty galore.  
"Wake up, Jing," Kir muttered, "all around us is loot galore!"  
Treasure from ceiling to floor!

T  
hus, this ebony bird's wing, sent Jing's sad face into smiling,  
For Jing could steal the stars from the sky, thevery he truly did adore.  
The albatross sat proudly on Jing's placid bust, his beady eyes did implore,  
One more thing Kir did utter, his feathers all a greedy flutter his voice a roar:  
Quoth the albatross, "Let's steal some more!"





who the hell is he!!?



# THE KING OF BANDITS

## CRIME REPORT

2001 EDITION

SECOND VOLUME

On the surface, *King of Bandits* appears to be merely an action series about a master thief in a fantasy world. But at second glance, the series is full of hidden puns and inside jokes that occur on many different levels. Here, author Iwao Kumakura helps us plumb the depths of this deceptively simple series.

# Character

## Mara Suki-No [Mara Schino]

The boss of Seventh Heaven's name comes from a colorless liqueur reputedly made with rare Marasca cherries. When Jinq escapes from prison, the figure of Marashino, channelling the remains of his rage into complete insanity, is reminiscent of the aforementioned "La Vita di Bonaventura Cellini Fiorentino."

## Medarodo Shishaku [Medardo]

Not the name of an alcoholic beverage, but a reference to an Italo Calvino book called "Il Visconte D'Almazzate," the main character of which is Medardo. It is expected that this story, which follows the life of a man mysteriously split in two by a shell during wartime, is currently being perused with great interest by Jinq fans (Akfumi Company Publications)

## Balalaika [Balalaika]

Add white curacao and lemon to vodka, shake it, and voila, you have Balalaika. This stage for "Amarcord" is a charming town with rows of Russian-style minarets--appropriately enough, as balalaika is also the name of a typical Russian stringed instrument. You can see Russian words--as well as avant-garde design work from Russia--everywhere in the Kumakura world.

## Rome [Rome]

"Apple" in French (can also mean "potato")

## Minto [Mint]

Here, Mint can be interpreted as mint flavoring. This would be closest to peppermint (chakkai) in Japan.

## Kayro-Bo [Clove]

A spice, called chouji in Japan. Along with the last two mentioned above, Clove completes the "three bad boys/three strike-outs." Come to think of it, did you notice something of a baseball motif throughout this episode?

## Kashisu [Cassis]

Cassis sounds better than "black gooseberry," doesn't it? This character from "Amarcord," along with the above-mentioned "strikeouts," is designated with the name of a raw material used in alcohol and cocktails. It is to imply that they are still children, and therefore underage [alcohol = adult].

## Pestino [Postino]

It is not touched upon in this episode, but the artisan who delivers the gun to Jing is popularly known as Pestino (see JING, KING OF BANDITS--Twilight Tales, battle 1). This is the Italian name for "postman." There was also a movie in 1995 called "Il Postino," in which a secluded poet wrote exchanges of the heart for the postman working on his island. Worth a look.

## Putao [Putao]

An ill-natured detective who bites Jing's head off with questioning. It's pronounced putapau, from the Chinese putaoiu. Speaking of which, his Chinese-style outfit, with the hair style, reminds me of a Qing dynasty official. This man comes off as chowd, even at the end of the Game Boy edition. If you are a fan, by all means, see for yourself.

## Zaza [Zaza]

Add dubonnet and angostura bitters to dry gin, stir, and voila, you have Zaza. The panorama of Zaza that appears at the beginning of this story stemmed from a piece of work named "Venezia Sanz'Acqua" by Clerici, a 20th-century Italian artist. Would you be satisfied to know that Zaza, assuming it's a city on the sea, is surrounded by desert? I wonder.

## Dubone [Dubonnet]

A flavored wine prepared by garnishing wine plus distilled alcohol with Chinese tree bark, among other things. The mask that Countess Dubonnet wears was originally inspired by Japan's Noh masks, but it could be said that its true success lies in the fact that it matches the look of the houses and shops of Zaza, making you think more of Venice--a style entirely characteristic of Yuichi Kumakura.

## Soteca [Stir]

From the action "to stir" (blend with a bar spoon) that has appeared many times in previous recipes. It might be said that the name characterizes her wonderfully as someone who "stirs up" the town of Zaca. She embodies stout-heartedness and gallantry-- and is appropriately, the most popular "yinq girl."

## Remon [Lemon]

Stir's younger brother. Since he died without ever having grown up, it looks like he was named for a fruit that never got to be an alcohol. Incidentally, Vodka's son, who appears in the Game Boy edition, is also named Lemon, but there is no special relation between the two-- it is a name like "Tareu" for sure, you know.

## Nishikyodai [Ice Bros]

Three feared cold hearted brothers. Cube is cubed ice, Crush is crushed ice-- but the very last one, Battle, means, "to make powdered/frustrated," so it is a better suit you link it with ice. To that extent, you could interpret it as meaning the brothers' entire existence is incomprehensible, since their true nature is not actually human.

## Kyogosuchura [Kyogostora]

Two men, young and old, with the same name-- Angostura, a bitter tasting aconite created in Venezuela, South America. This is something that happens a great deal in the West-- the Young Angostura inherited his grandfather's name. In other words, it is like saying Louis the 13th or 14th. This family, for generations, has managed the protection of the Dubonnet family.

## Ginjou [Ginjoli]

Ginjou is a favorite fruity alcohol from Japan, made with more than 40% polished rice. The deadly technique of this vagabond warrior, who was aloof from the trivialities of the world, was called "wolf claw!!" If you translate it, it's "okuu, okkami"-- in other words, a man who commits evil by pretending to send a drunken girl home. What an insulting name!!

## Danda [Dunder]

Refers to the drogs that remain when rum alcohol is distilled. No wonder this bullfighter/lady-killer had such an unexpectedly dull name. His surname, Mart n que, comes from the Martinique Islands of the Caribbean Sea, an area that produces rum.

## Akiesho [Aviation]

Aviation translates as "hikaru" in Japanese. You could say the name of the town foreshadowed the launch of Jing's adventure, when he solves the puzzle in the temple of light and soars into the sky on the legendary giant fish. Aviation is also a cocktail that adds lemon juice and other ingredients to a dry gin base.

## Fujir-Neburu [Fuzzy Navel]

Fuzzy Navel is a stirred drink that combines orange juice with peach liqueur. The "fuzz" in it refers to the fine, light hairs on the surface of peaches and similar fruits. But the word "fuzzy" also holds a big connotation in Japanese, as in "yuraqu no aru." (Editor's note: long ago, the term "fuzzy" came to be a widely-used way to indicate electric products in Japan.) Although yuraqu hoso (= navel) is revealed as an unredden plateau close to neither heaven nor earth, the name I gave it fits just right.

## Kirishio [Kirsche]

Kirsche is a cherry liqueur made in Switzerland. It is a fairly strong alcohol, contrary to the image it evokes of a cute cherry, but I have a hunch that it strangely suits our strong-to-the-core kitty-chan character.

## Krako [Arrack, Krak]

In a den of heathens, Arab is aware of the corruption within. His name comes from an alcohol, arrack, distilled from the dates that overwhelm the near and middle east. It has an appropriate ring for the person in charge of Fuzzy Navel, and contributes to an atmosphere that has no nationality of its own, but is roughly based on Asia.

## Pesca [Pesca]

Pesca is Ita an for "peach." It comes from the indispensable peach liqueur (momo no osaka) used in a fuzzy Navel. By the way, the "gigantessa" in the cloud sculpture, Pesca Gigantessa, means "giantic." So if you translate the entire name into English you get "giant peach," just like the one in Tim Burton's animated masterpiece. Although the peach not only transports children to a new world, it takes them to Hell...

## Pompe [Pompier]

A cocktail that adds crème de cassis and soda water to vermouth. In France it means "fireman," and for that reason, the "painter's truck" that appears at the beginning of the story looks just like a fire truck. Also, this fire truck's used completely different from its original inspiration, which you may recognize from François Truffaut's Sci-Fi movie, "Fanfan la Tulipe."

## Fino [Fido]

A variety of sherry whose light color is its chief characteristic. Fino's surname, Quart, is an indication of capacity based on the "ounce method" of weights and measures, which is different from the metric system. In America, 1 quart = 946 ml.

## Dorabot [Drambuie]

The first King sh produced liqueur. It combines herbs and other ingredients using whiskey as its base. Our character of the same name may look like a trump king, but he is in fact only the president-san of mena abacles.

## Shupetore-ze [Spätlese]

A sweet, strong German white wine that uses late-harvested, heated grapes. Although the chameleon doctor of our story might be better described as "rotting" than "ripened".

## Kurimazoukingo [Crimson King]

Pompier's underground crimson lake. The name comes from the 1969 debut album of an English rock band. The record, "Crimson King's Palace," was a monumental work that opened up a new art form called progressive rock (short form, prog rock). Furthermore, the band's name, King Crimson, became the name of Color City's first enterprise which Drambuie supervises.

## Van [Vid]

"Van," which means vine in extremely simple French, became the legendary painter's name. And "Le Cimetière d'œuvres Inconnus" was his posthumous work--but did you know that there's a short novel with the same name by France's literary master, Balzac?

It is the story of a painter who ruined himself through his admiration of the arts... just like Fine's father!!!

Well, now. From here on out, we are not going to be concerned with character names, but will be searching every corner of every panel for meanings and homages hidden within the words and pictures.

## - Volume I -

### City of Thieves

As I touched on in the initial set-up collection of the first volume, the City of Thieves was drawn as an homage to the Tower of Babel. According to the Old Testament, there was only one universal language until the wrath of God came down on this tower. In other words, there were no barriers or national borders between the people before that. But it may also be said that the City of Thieves is a place where people from every conceivable race and country gather for one common purpose--crime is the only true equalizer...

### Anchor Of The Phantom Ship

In the Game Boy edition, the anchor combination that attacks Jing and the others before they enter the casino has an actual name. The one who holds the chains on top is called Pantagruel, and the anchor's main body is called Gargantua. These names come from the works "Pantagruel" and "Gargantua," magnificently exaggerated stories by France's Rabelais, a giant of the French Renaissance.

### In The Nick Of Time??

A certain black-mustached man comes to pick a fight with Jing and the gang while they are making a killing in the casino. This man's outfit, if you look closely, is an homage to the barrels Mario jumped over in "Donkey Kong."

## Clockwork Grape

What should come to your mind immediately is the aforementioned "Clockwork Orange." This masterpiece depicted, with cynical and stylish imagery, the "reverse rectification" of a young person who spent all his time on violence and sex.

## Door That Tells Time

The entrance to the city of Odonis, guarded by the gear gate-watchers. The source of the gigantic clock was the astrological clock of the city government office in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. It's a work of art by which people can enjoy the greeting of Christ's twelve disciples, along with a show of puppets that announce the time.

## \* Volume 2 \*

### A Big Mac is Fine, But...

The dream Kir had of the mustached old man, having barely escaped from Mastergear (a reference to that here a fast food chain founder, the Colonel, judging from Kir's testimony that he would have been "fried" with potatoes!!)

### Country of the World of the Dead=Neverland

The name of the country where the eternal child Peter Pan and his friends lived. In most of James Barrie's original work, "Peter Pan," is inlaid everywhere in the "Time City" book. For example

### Captain

The "Captain" exchanged one hand, which was eaten by a crocodile (Clockodile), for a hook (key). A reference to Peter Pan's old enemy, Captain Hook himself. Furthermore...

### Cock-A-Doodle Doooo

This war cry, in reference to Ning's seeing the morning sun when he enters the grapes tower, is also Peter Pan's favorite phrase

### "A Graveyard is the Most Economical Place to Stay"

This line, which the Captain says to Ning and the gang underground, is borrowed from Langston Hughes, an African-American black poet. Hughes crystallized the souls of black people, who went on living reassuringly even while suffering discrimination, in the form of his poems.

## Sour Grapes...

Aesop's famous words, which everyone has heard at one time or another. It's the story of a fox who, when unable to eat some grapes growing in a high, unreachable place, made the excuse that, "These grapes were sour anyway." Both the finest of grapes and the supremacy of his wisdom were nothing but objects of intense jealousy to the cold-hearted female fox in our story.

## Distortion

A popular name for the harvester who flew around the big temple that produced the red wine grapes. Distortion is a sound effect that warps the sound of an electric guitar on purpose. These harvesters probably got their name from the scythes that they hold, which were shaped like electric guitars (see Game Boy edition).

## 13th Hour

The spacious room where Jing and Vins Moussoux unfolded their final desperate struggle was furnished with carved statues representing the 12 constellations, in a shape that mirrored the 12 hours of a clock...but there was one extra figure. And so, Vins Moussoux related "not being part of this world" to the 13th hour figure. Thirteen is a numeral that should be avoided, as far as most Christians are concerned. Its existence brings death to mind. The 13th figure, which had a heart-shaped lamp as if to symbolize human life, tracked Jing and the gang's escape route, tailing them even after Vins Moussoux was defeated.

Material from the "Animals Bombs, Porvoras" book

## Walt's Family?

Much hidden art was concealed in the spread pages immediately after Jing set out on his trip with the Porvora. In the center of the picture was the "world's first famous mouse," and in the rocky mountain to the right were the spitting images of objects from "Le Voyage dans la lune," a work of Méliès, a hero from the birth of cinema.

## Why Spanish

Necessary tools as seen in western movies can be seen in great numbers in the "Porvora" book, including a lot of Spanish vocabulary (since many western movies take place along the Mexican state border, Spanish expressions are often utilized). Even "Porvora" is Spanish. And "n no," used by Izarra to threaten vinyl, means "baby." The "signora" of Signore Goblet is kind of like that, too.

## - Volume 3 -

### "Le Salaire de la Peur"

The final conception of this episode stemmed, no doubt, from the 1952 French movie masterpiece, *Le Salaire de la Peur*. The story of men who were unable to make a living, transporting great quantities of nitro-glycerin--only in preparation for their eventual deaths--was also a masterpiece of the famous Yves Montand, a chanson singer.

### "Le Petit Prince"

We could also mention the motif of "Le Petit Prince," a masterpiece by French author Saint Exupery, as another factor that made this episode rich and deep. Follow the reading carefully--in each episode different set ups blend into the expressions, which invoke very deep impressions. For example, phrases like Goblet's "Baobab" mansion and "the most precious things aren't always visible to the naked eye" --there are too many to mention them all. But the most effective quote would be the last line of the "Porvora" book...

"The land of tears is strange country indeed .sn't it, Izarra ?"

While it came from the original text of *Le Petit Prince*, it is expected that many fans were deeply touched by this line, in which the nuance was subtly shifted.

By the way, the image of Izarra taking her shower in Sungria could almost double as the rose in the glass bin, which also appears in the original text.

## Pale Rider

The scene at the Sungria mining location, where Kir's comrades are being worked so hard, looks a lot like the gold mine that appears in "Pale Rider," a 1985 film by director Clint Eastwood.

## The Great Dictator

At one point, Goblet plays with a balloon that imitates the star gear. There is an identical scene in the 1940 Charlie Chaplin film "The Great Dictator."

## Bateau Livre

If we were to translate into Japanese the words of the boat's sail (with the miserable skeeter as its mast), it would be "yé-dore-tan." This is representative of the French poet Rimbaud. In this work, one extremely drunken ship goes forth to the middle of a dying world - similar to the tone of the "Reviver" book. Also in "Reviver," vestiges of the poems Verlaine wrote to his friend and lover, Rimbaud, peek out here and there.

## Life And Death On Reverse Sides Of A Coin...

The town of Reviver, where Ling and the gang ended up. This island's story follows the archetype of "Die Toteninsel," or "The Island of Death," by Arnold Böcklin, a Swiss-born symbolic painter. An ironic reference, associating this town of eternal life with the island of death.

## Odradek

Odradek, a "diminutive helper" who appears as a "flat, star-shaped speck of thread" at unexpected times and places and disappears quickly, first appeared in "O Sorga dos Hauvatos," a short story by Czech writer Franz Kafka. In the last part of that short story, a mysterious creature is mentioned:

"He does no harm to anyone that one can see, but the idea that he is likely to survive me I find almost painful."

Could it not be sad that this might be the immortal king's feelings towards Vermouth...?

## Church Of "The Second Puzzle"

It seems there's a church in Poland one whose walls  
is made entirely of human bones.

## - Volume 4 -

### Eternal Soup

Something called "Eternal Soup" appears in a famous episode of "Der Zauberberg," a monumental work by a monumental German author, Thomas Mann. He writes about how soup is served in the sanitarium, as though stamped with a daily seal isolated from the normal flow of time--and, of course, it's not liquid and the like within it.

### Rot, Ryd Grasshoppers?

The trembling young player who makes excuse after excuse in the convoy bus at the beginning of the "Seventh Heaven" book. It looks like he's been told a crime, thinking ill of someone who had saved up some money, but... umm? Wait--a guy who plays nothing but music and a guy who is hoarding money, on...? Somehow or other, I'm reminded of an old parable...

### The Mosquito Grade...

A rank in heavy and welter weight boxing--but what Maraschino refers to is a "mosquito" -- an insecticide that the boxer in player will ingest and die

### Le Givelai Noir De Piranesi

The elegant, maze-like interior design of the prison is a huge reference to the of a prison drawn by Piranesi, an 18th century Italian engraver. He was a different yet capable artist who drew from a unique perspective, excluding any emotional feelings

### Escape From Alcatraz

There's a 1979 Don Siegel-directed work, "Escape From Alcatraz," starring Clint Eastwood. Speaking of which, the name of the horned rat the old prisoner was feeding was something like Clint...

## A Straight Line to Hell

The bizarre aperture that announces "The only exit is here," right before the appearance of Benedictine, borrows the archetype of Prince Orsini's "Park of the Monsters" in Bomarzo, at the center of Italy. Somehow, this park has within it a reproduction of the gateway to Hell itself.

## Dodo

Pulling the train that Jing's party boarded within the prison of dreams was an illusory, flightless bird, the Dodo. If you're wondering why this rare bird, which went extinct from being preyed on by humans and animals because it could not fly, appears here, you should probably recall the fact that this prison of dreams was built from feelings, which would not necessarily rule out a lost race (ushinawareta snazoku). After all, the Acopian tribe was also left to the mercy of fate, just like that helpless rare bird.

## A Grieving Toy

Campari muttered these words, as though sneering at himself...

"I used a toy called a dream orb."

Speaking of sad toys, "Grieving Toy" is the title of a second anthology of poems by Ishikawa Takuboku, posthumously published in 1912. So many young poets die prematurely...is there some sort of epidemic that causes their hearts to choke?

## Amarcord

"Amarcord" was a once-in-a-lifetime movie created in 1974 by Federico Fellini, a famous director who represented Italy. This work depicted dazzling images of Fellini's boyhood on stage in the town of Rimini, Italy, where he grew up. It is said that the title means "I remember" in Rimini dialect. That is why the story of young Jing's own indulgent memory carried that nostalgic word for its title.

## It Is Not About a Guy Who Follows After the Letters

The second half of the episode shows the ruins of what looks like a research laboratory--a mystery that Jing and Kr happen upon. Its peculiar, empty emotion recalls the atmosphere of "Stalker," a 1979 Russian movie. Andre Tarkovsky, who later defected from Russia, directed this film about scientists who force their way into a prohibited area called the "Zone."

## Snow Ridge Splits

The humorous tune everyone sings around the table after the first visit of the Kr-egg. It appears there is an original joke in this somehow but whose song it is is unclear. Even this editorial department is considering investigating it further.

## - Volume 5 -

### A Moveable Feast

This book, "A Moveable Feast Guide," is regarded as an official source of explanation from the outset. I have never heard of a feast that moved, but if you translate the existing work called "A Moveable Feast," the work of one Ernest Hemingway, a writer who represented the "lost generation" of America, it becomes "dou shukusa" tsu." In Hemingway's work, which documents the exciting lifestyles of 1920s Paris (in which he lived) he analyzes the city's festival-like atmosphere.

"If you are lucky enough to have lived in Paris as a young man, then whenever you go for the rest of your life, it stays with you, for Paris is a moveable feast."

Would the book in our story that listed the town of Zaza, as though attempting to recall in us the same kind of deep emotion that Hemingway felt for Paris, be "A Moveable Feast Guide?"

### Vintage Smile

"Vintage Smile" refers to the name of the timetrama in which grapes are harvested for wine. Since wine differs completely in quality of harvest from year to year, even if it is the same brand, wines from a year in which quality grapes are harvested are associated with the name of their harvest year and, as such, command a high price in the marketplace. Similarly, the word "vintage" is attached to this mask of utmost quality, which preserves the finest smile.

## Warrior Of The Rising Sun

It is a well-known fact that "H IZURUTOKORO NO TENSU" is a masterpiece manga, in which Tamagishi Ryousuke depicted Shoutoku Tensu in an unprecedented vision. One letter off that title is the name of this fighter, assumed to have come from the Far East, who becomes the center of the "mascorrada" storm. A newspaper caption turns the name into "Rising Son," but this is intentional. Although the original meaning refers to a sunrise, the other meaning connotes that the "son" candidate is rising quickly among the ranks... so, both are implied.

## And Now, A Question For The Ages...

Often, in fan letters and the like, we come across questions like, "Does Tamor Wataru-sensei of 'Kobotto Ponkotsu,' now appearing serialized (2001 to current) in the monthly publication comic Bonbon, have any relationship with Kumakura-sensei?" We will answer that question here. Yes, there's a relationship. Tamori-sensei was once Kumakura-sensei's assistant. But did you know that Tamori-sensei made a cameo appearance in the "Zaza" book? There was a case needed man among the townspeople, who were in an uproar about a sudden tremor under their feet during the confrontation with Battlo as our heroes left the mask cafe. That was him.

## Even Stars Sparkle

You'll find that in a lot of Jing's stories, the sun and the moon play an important part. In this "Zaza" book, the Countess is liberated from her reverie of the past upon seeing the brilliance of the morning sun. It is probably not a mistake that this repeated motif brings out emotions of a similar scale in Jing.

## - Volume 6 -

## Could Be A World Legacy

Aviation's mysterious spectacle, where strange rocks protrude in countless numbers. It is not exactly clear where they begin, but it brings to mind that land of mystery, Cappadocia - a large, picturesque place in Turkey somewhere. It is said that young Christian monks settled there in secret and cultivated their own personal culture on one side of the wastelands, where many strange rocks like those stand close together.

## High Praise For Takahata Isao

A giant fish that flew in the sky and was attracted by the light from the temple. However, although Jing saw it, the giant fish took him by force and one of the kittens looked up into the rising sky. This image had a source in "Tale of Tales," a work of Russian animator artist Iur Norsman. In it, a fish, that's being chased escapes to the sky, as a cat looks up and gives a sorrowful cry.

## Stray Cats

"Noronaka" in English means STRAY CATS, but it's in close conjunction with an expression frequently used in Christianity, STRAY SHEEP (mayaaru kohitaj). This name, which has a double meaning, was created for the kittens Kirsche leads, likening them to devout sisters who serve God.

## Electricity Killed The Cat

These words were written throughout the town a parody of a saying in English, "CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT" (keukishin, noko wa koreba) Roughly, it means that nothing goes right when you stick your nose into things that aren't your business. But with the change from CURIOSITY to ELECTRICITY it has come to be a slogan of another kind that expresses the Stray Cats' sense of respect towards electricity.

## Let There Be Light

These are famous words from the Old Testament, which tells of the time when God created the world but the religion that appears within this work has no direct relationship whatsoever with Christianity. Rather, regarding these words as an ignition point, it would be better to think about a new religion that accomplished an original evolution. The Cancer sect is a different denomination from that of Kirsche and the gang--that is, while showing respect to the same thing [God=light], one side assumes light should be distributed to everyone, and the other assumes it should be monopolized.

## "Two Powers Dominate Space, Light And Gravity"

These words were spoken like an incantation by the two Cahier sect believers who targeted the lives of Jing and the gang as they arrived in Fuzzy Naval. In fact, these are the words of an actual philosopher, Simone Weil, a tomale thinker from France. There is one passage within her masterpiece, "La Pescanteur et la Grâce," which collected these words. Perhaps the believers of the Cahier sect chose to bond and interpret these words, which originally held a similar sentiment to the above-mentioned "Let There Be Light," as an excuse to toy with the lives of heretics.

## Solid Gold Batteries

I have never heard of any actual instances of mercury batteries turning into solid gold batteries. However, in the Jing world, it is as if a technique of producing electricity from gold really does exist.

It certainly gives the impression of being the highest grade dry cell battery, but it appears that peoples' chief interest is in the value of the gold itself, and that they are being exchanged solely as gambling chips.

## Jing on Air

ON AIR is an expression used in radio and television broadcasts, but this story, borrowing only the nuance of the words, tried to leave the impression of Jing actually riding an electro-magnetic wave and dancing into the air.

## - Volume 7 -

## Tattooed Heart

One could say that this episode's subtitle, "Tattooed Heart," was an outstanding title that splendidly expressed the work's theme, but it originally came from an album title of Aaron Neville, an African-American musician. Rather, it may be said that this subtitle existed before the contents of the story were established. Sources for the idea were, in fact, various.

### Conceal the Head...

There is a work of reportage called "The Island of Sakhalin" by Anton Chetkov, a Russian author. Within it is a passage telling of a bird on death's door that had its feathers plucked before taking its flight from life. It is as though Kir's desperate infiltration campaign was somehow or another inspired by this anecdote.

### Color City

There is a song with the name "Color City" on Onuki Taeko's album, *Cliche*. Its pop music gave the impression of regarding colorful images as having a rhythmical melody all their own.

### Burning House Of Ice River

The image of a burning house is sometimes used as a Buddhist symbol for setting ablaze the world of worldly desire and suffering. But to the house's owner, Quart, whose personal ideals could not be achieved in this world, it symbolized that the living world was equivalent to his own personal "Hell."

### Gobanide No Youso= Fifth Element

Obviously, director Luc Besson's super epic sci-fi film.

### It's like Having Drawn the Picture Completely...

All sorts of artist's supplies were incorporated into the backgrounds and props, which was appropriate for the subject matter in the "Color City" book. The factory where Jing & Fino took refuge used paintbrushes as smokestacks. And the armed group that chased after Fino carried compass-type machine guns.

### Director David Lean's Work

There is a beautiful sequence from "Doctor Zhivago," a 1965 English film, in which two lovers are living in a deserted house that appears to be decorated in snow and ice. Whether or not it was a direct reference is unknown...but does this image not give an impression similar to the Quart mansion, where the ice river was hidden?

## Memento Mori

It is assumed that humans instinctively avoid death, and form all kinds of theories about it with the secret wish of concealing its deeper meaning. It can probably be said, then, that the words *memento mori* have always managed to shake up mankind's concealed handiwork, while continuing to provide it an opportunity to look its inevitable fate in the face. In Latin, the words mean, "Do not forget death." This expression gave a voice to humanity's sense of powerlessness long before the affluence of plague and war that followed the Middle Ages. It not only addressed the age-old question, "Can death and humanity be reconciled?" but also raised the important question, "Must we go?"

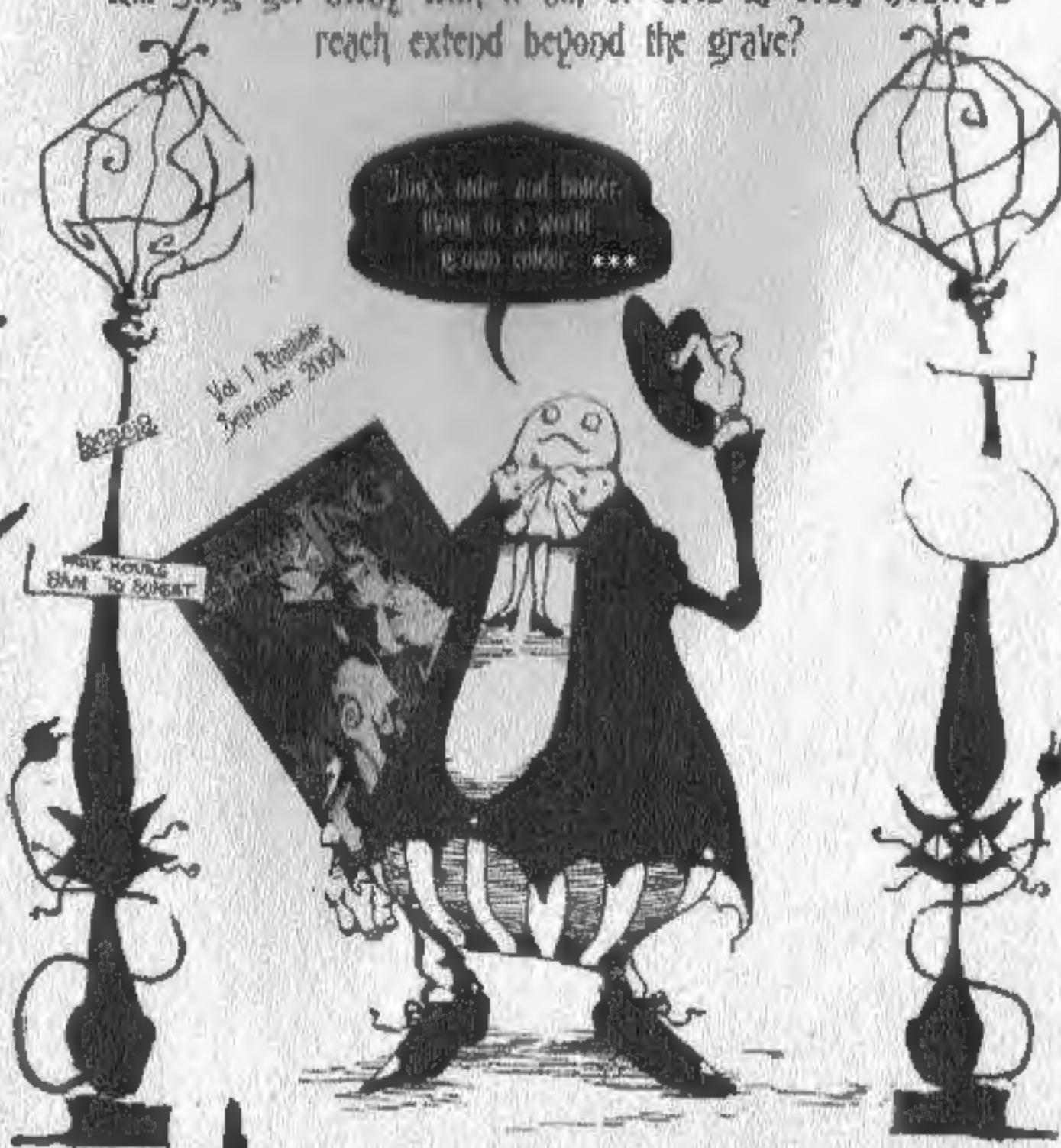
It goes without saying that the "Town of Eternal Life, Reviver" book took a cold, hard look at death. Jing himself is somewhat based in death, since his mother, whom he regards as his heart's guide, is already dead. Perhaps this unspeakable grief has defined him more than anyone knows.

TWILIGHT TALES

KING OF BANDITS  
王トロボウJING

The last chapter has closed on Jing: King of Bandits, but don't feel blue—Jing and Kir will return in Jing: Twilight Tales, a new series coming soon that is already leaving fans green with envy! Get ready to take fresh, fantastical, and far-out journeys with Jing and his feisty, feathered friend Kir! Twilight Tales is an awesome new series with a darker, more sophisticated take on our heroes!

When Jing sets his sights on a valuable jewel in the coffin of a notorious mafia boss, is he really playing with fire? Will Jing get away with it all, or does la cosa nostra's reach extend beyond the grave?



\*\*\* It reads: Jing's older and bolder, living in a world grown colder.